



Committee:

Janet Quarton  
Sheila Clark  
Valerie Piacentini

Committee Assistants: Karen Sparks  
Helen White

December 1992

## Newsletter 25



"The glory of creation is in its infinite diversity and the way our differences combine to create meaning and beauty."



*Honorary Members: Gene Roddenberry, Richard Arnold, James Doohan, Walter Koenig, John de Lancie & Marnie Mosiman, Mark Lenard, Michael Okada, Ernie Over, Susan Sackett, Marina Sirtis, Patrick Stewart, Rick Sternbach, George Takei, Guy Vardaman, Rupert Evans, Lorraine Kelly, Anne Page, Rick Parfitt, Bjo Trimble.*

Hi everyone, and welcome to another newsletter. We hope you like the new logo which was designed and drawn by Robert Gray. It was a clear winner with 50 votes. Second was number 20 drawn by Michael Crouch, with 34 votes and 3rd number 15 drawn by Mark Burchill with 29 votes. Thanks to everyone who sent in their votes. The only alteration we have made to the logo is to remove the full stops as 'IDIC' is a word describing a Vulcan philosophy - not just an abbreviation. It is pronounced ID as in lid and IC as in pick.

You will notice that we don't have any convention reports in this newsletter. We couldn't manage Midcon and Confederation this year and neither could Helen and as it happened no-one else sent in a report. However we have heard that both conventions went well. Richard Arnold and Guy Vardaman were guests at Midcon and John de Lancie and Guy Vardaman at Confederation.

In the last newsletter we introduced a limit to the length of small ads, but since we forgot to bring it to your attention we've not enforced it this time. Please limit the length of For Sale and Wanted ads to 10 lines - one of each

per member.

We have decided to stay with the same font as we used in the last newsletter for the time being as anyone who mentioned it seemed to like it. You may have noticed some additions in this newsletter, such as the new fonts and the small pictures. We'd like to thank Marysia Kolodziej, Helen White, Edward Woo and Chris Bailey for sending in designs. Most of the ones we have used this time are by Helen White and Edward Woo. We're hoping that they will give some more of you budding artists some ideas. You don't even have to be a good artist to draw small sketches like these. We would like to form a large collection of pictures so that we can vary them in the newsletters. What we do ask that they are black & white ink drawings, no larger than 4"x4" which we can scan. The final size of the drawing is adjusted when it is added to the title.

Although everyone was too polite to mention it, some of you must have noticed some glitches in layout in the last newsletter. Not to mention the fact that we printed the last paragraph of Helen's con report at the end of Edward's, and made a mistake with her address. The problem with the layout is that

when Sheila and Valerie go home after proof-reading the newsletter Janet is left with a collection of articles in different files which she has to compile to make up the newsletter. We won't bore you with details on how this is done but those of you with experience of DTP will know the fun of trying to fit articles together and occasionally having to swap them around. The problem is that when the newsletter is finally compiled Janet just has to check through it on the computer. In an ideal world we would print out a hard copy which would be sent to someone else to proof read but this would cost too much (bubble jet ink is expensive) and take too much time as it would have to be sent by post. Hopefully layout will improve as Janet gets more used to using the program, but it just takes one line added or deleted in the wrong place to throw out pages. That is what happened with the Postbag - we didn't intend for some peoples' names to be on the bottom line.

We also have a slight glitch with the printer at the moment although you may not notice it in the reduced size of the newsletter. Occasionally the printer is either missing a line or transposing it. This is a line one dot thick, not a line of print. The problem is that we don't know whether the fault is with the computer, the printer driver or the printer, so for the moment it is a case of living with it.

Someone asked why sometimes we put 'Spoiler Alerts' in the newsletter and sometimes we don't. Well we try to put them in if we realise the episode has not been shown on BBC and if we feel it gives away part of the plot. Sometimes we get confused about which episodes have been shown and may miss putting an alert in.

Janet would like to apologise to everyone she owes personal letters to - she'll try to reply to everyone over Christmas.

Our thanks to Helen Bickley, Roger Buck, Rosemary Chivers, Linda Court, Barbara Ellams, Graeme Evans, Carol Kean, Laura Kempton, James J. Miller, Martin Montgomery, Judith Proctor, Graham Probert, Margaret Rainey, Carol Ranger, Margaret Richardson, Geoffrey A. Shaw, Jean Sloan, Alan Stephen and anyone we have

inadvertently forgotten to mention, for sending information and/or cuttings.

The raffle winners are Cassie Davies, Classic Trek Calendar + a year's membership of IDIC; Linda Court, TNG Calendar + a year's membership of IDIC and Stephen Rothwell a year's membership of IDIC.

We're having another raffle with this newsletter. The prizes this time are the graphic novel Debt of Honour plus 1 year's membership of IDIC, a copy of the ST:TNG Companion plus 1 year's membership of IDIC and a prize of 1 year's membership of IDIC. Please state any preference and put it with your name and address or membership number on each individual ticket. Tickets are £1 (or £2) for the strip of 5 - please note that if you want £2's worth you can send both strips back (it is your name on the ticket that counts, not the number of the ticket.) Please send your tickets (and money, of course!) to Sheila or Janet by January 6th. Winners will be announced in the next newsletter.

Please do not send £1 coins (some of these have been lost in the post) and please do not send cheques or POs for less than £2; we will accept stamps (any combination of values from 1p to £2).

Thank you to Lesley Arrowsmith, Claudia Baschke, Jean Barron, Anne Beck, Jeremy Briggs, Vera Braukmann, Liz Butler, Helen Cakebread, Anna Carnie, Sandie Cayless, Linda Court, C Davis, Leah Dore and all at Trace Publications, Barbara Ellams, Jane Fenn, Gort Fleck, Kathleen Glancy, Becky Gray, J Green, Grace Hawkins, Caro Hedge, Katrina Heintz, Adele Hilton, Christine Hornby, Peter Hughes, D Illingworth, Muriel Jarrett, Kirstie Jordan, Marysia Kolodziej, Ruth Kurz, Silvia Lange, Lloyd Lewis, Bill Lindsay, Nina Lynch, Colin MacKay, L Manfield, Gill Marsden, Russell Melling, James J. Miller, Jenny Mills, Martin Montgomery, Philip Morley, A Mullany, Barry O'Doherty, Gloria Rigg, Stephen Rothwell, Mark Sadler, Barbara Schmid, Ingrid Smith, Martin Stahl, Andrew Stewart, Kevin Thomas, Joyce Urquhart, Peter Walsh, Linda Watt, Carol Weatherill with thanks to neighbours Maria and David, Helen White.

Dee Willcox, Edward Woo, Gaile Wood, Barbara Wright, Waltraud Zucha-Glass and anyone we have inadvertently forgotten or who didn't give their name who has donated money, collectibles, and/or used stamps for the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association.

At the end of September Sheila went to Fortar to give them the money for our next dog - we've reserved Sadie, a sister of Aero's from a later litter, who will be going in for training early next year, because she was bred by Joyce Urquhart (nee Devlin), one of our members. We got a pleasant surprise - we have an accumulation card with them and anything we hand in (from the collecting box, say) is added to it - but we'd thought we cleared it when we sponsored Aero. We hadn't. Including the £114 that was in the collecting box from the 1992 cons, there was £415 on the card. This means that instead of having about £170 towards our next dog, we're already half-way there! We're sure you'll be as pleased about that as we are.

If you are using a computer we would be very grateful if you can send your submissions on disc. We can read BBC & Archimedes discs, MS DOS 3.5" (all formats - but preferably 720K+), 5.25" (720K max. and

preferably 720k), Atari ST discs, Amstrad WPC 3" discs. All files should be saved as ASCII text files, aligned left and preferably saved without line-end markers.

The closing date for the next newsletter is January 6th (January 4th for anything sent to Sheila). Don't forget - send postbag submissions, articles and reviews to Sheila, discs and everything else to Janet. And PLEASE put your name on all submissions. We hope to post it out around January 28th.

We hope you have a enjoyable time over the festive season. However, while you are enjoying yourselves don't forget to send us in items for the next newsletter. We have some on hold but we need a lot more.

Janet, Sheila, Valerie 15/12/92

CONTAGION apologise for the delay in sending out the convention videos. This was due to circumstances beyond their control. The videos have started being shipped and they hope to post them all out as soon as possible.

☆☆☆☆



## LATEST STAR TREK NEWS



### STAR TREK

The original series is continuing its Wednesday night screenings on BBC 2 and maintaining its viewing figures. Its position in the charts is dependant on the relative popularity of other programs rather than week-to-week viewing figures - as you'll see from the chart.

### STAR TREK VII

We hear that William Shatner has an office at Paramount and he is working on STVII. He did submit a script but we don't know if that

is the one he is working on.

**"Star Trek VII: final frontier for Kirk and Co"** Today 14/10/92

This article says the film is going to cost £33 million and that in it Kirk will hand over command to Picard. The storyline has yet to be finalised but there is a possibility of a romance for Kirk allowing him and his crew to fade gently into retirement. "There will be a few surprises as well", said a Paramount spokesman.

The Sun 14/10/92 has the cost of the movie at £35 million and says than fans will see Kirk

hand over the bridge of the Enterprise to Picard!!!

The Daily Mirror 14/10/92 has, An insider explained: "The original crew really are getting too old to fly. The idea is to phase

Kirk, Spock and the old crew out - while bringing the new guys in. Then we will be able to produce a whole new series of ST movies."

Shatner is already writing the script and filming is expected to start next year.

## STAR TREK on BBC

Star Trek screening dates and ratings - the figures are taken from Broadcast

Ep. No	Title	Date shown	Viewers (million)	Pos. (BBC 2)
08	Charlie X	2/9/92	4.66	4
02	Where No Man Has Gone Before	9/9/92	4.74	2
	STV: The Final Frontier	12/9/92	8.77	10 (BBC 1)
07	Naked Time	16/9/92	4.17	2
05	The Enemy Within	23/9/92	3.88	4
04	Mudd's Women	30/9/92	4.09	4
10	What Are Little Girls Made Of?	7/10/92	4.42	5
12	Miri	14/10/92	4.60	5
11	Dagger Of The Mind	21/10/92	4.68	6
03	The Corbomite Maneuver	28/10/92		
16	The Menagerie, pt.	4/11/92		
16	The Menagerie, pt. 2	11/11/92		

## STAR TREK DEEP SPACE NINE

The season length has been confirmed as a two-hour premiere plus 18 one-hour segments.

Uniforms: reverse Starfleet black & gray body with coloured shoulders.

### TV ZONE 35:

Two additions to the cast - Camille Saviola will play Opaka and Quark's nephew, Nog, will be played by Aaron Eisenman.

Deep Space Nine is so large that it dwarfs the Space Dock seen in STIII, with entire communities living inside it. All the graphics panels and computer screens will be in Cardassian text until re-programmed by the Federation. The architecture will also reflect the alien 'feel' of the Cardassians.

A rumoured plot element is that the space station will be moved from orbit around Bajor to the mouth of the worm hole, which leads to the Gamma Quadrant.

Filming the pilot took 25 working days, a long time for just 90 minutes of tv; usually it would be filmed in 15 days.

Rick Sternback designed the exterior of the space station, DS9. (info Bjo Trimble)

According to The Official Fan Club Magazine No. 92 plans are well advanced for DS9 merchandise. As the new year begins, collectors will be able to purchase everything from holograms to video games to trading cards.. Companies licensed include A.H. Prismatic (holographic products), Creation Conventions (bumper stickers, sweatshirts, T-shirts, caps, mugs, jackets etc.), Ertl (model kits), Franklin Mint (calendar medals), Lewis Galoob Toy Company (die-cast metal and plastic micro machines), Image Marketing removable decals), Malibu Graphics Publishing (comics), Pocket Books (novels, companion books, audio cassettes and

calendars), Portal (posters), Skybox (trading cards), Tiger Electronics (hand-held video games, tabletop games and wristwatch games). All these DS9 products will be appearing sometime throughout 1993.

**"Deep Space Nine"** Entertainment Weekly 25/9/92. 9 page article about DS9 containing many pictures of the aliens and make-up. It is written by Benjamin Svetkey who plays the part of an unnamed alien looking like a 5' 9" asparagus spear. He says that Patrick Stewart will make a cameo appearance in the DS9 premiere - a flashback to the incident where he is taken over by the Borg and forced to blow up most of Federation Fleet - killing Sisko's wife.

Any members interested in this article should sent a large (A4) SAE to Alan Stephen, 45 Collieston Road, Bridge of Don, Aberdeen AB22 8WP.

## STAR TREK THE NEXT GENERATION

### On Sky One:

TNG commenced its 2nd season on 10th November, '92. The episodes are being shown weekday nights. The showing at 17.00 is edited if necessary for children, then the uncut version is shown the same night at 22.30.

Sky will be running the episode "The High Ground" as a special presentation with the two-hour '25 Years of Star Trek' documentary on Sunday 29th November (info TV Zone 36)

### Emmy Awards:

Dennis McCarthy: **Music Composition** dramatic underscore series "Unification I".

Robert Blackman: **Costume Design** series, "Cost of Living".

Michael Westmore, Gerald Quist, Ron Walters, June Haymore, Kenneth Diaz, Robert Schribner, Karen J. Westerfield, Richard Snell, Tania McComas: **Makeup** series, "Cost of Living".

Dan Curry, Ronald B. Moore, David Takemura, Erik Nash, Don Lee, Peter Sternlicht, Adam Howard, Syd Dutton,

Robert Stromberg: **Special Visual Effects** series, "A Matter of Time".

Robert Legato, Gary Hutzel, David Takemura, Pat Clancy, Adrian Hurly, Adam Howard, Don Lee, Dennis Hoerter: **Special Visual Effects** series, "Conundrum". (info Bjo Trimble)

Paramount Pictures are looking seriously at turning Next Generation into an animated series. (Info TV Zone 36)

## ST:TNG - 6TH SEASON

Star Trek: The Next Generation  
Season 6 Broadcast Schedule.  
Compiled By Edwin Yau.

*With additional info from Compuserve via  
Margaret Rainey*

Ep. = Episode number.

PC = Paramount Code.

Date = Date of satellite uplink.

R = A Repeat.

Ep. PC Date Title

127	227	19/09/92	Time's Arrow, Part II
128	228	26/09/92	Realm Of Fear
129	229	03/10/92	Man Of The People
130	230	10/10/92	Relics
131	231	17/10/92	Schisms
132	232	24/10/92	True Q (previously titled Q-Me)
133	233	31/10/92	Rascals
134	234	07/11/92	A Fistful Of Datas
135	235	14/11/92	The Quality Of Life
136	236	26/12/92	Chain of Command, Pt I
137	237	02/01/93	Chain of Command, Pt II

### Episode Synopsis.

127. "Time's Arrow II" - The conclusion to season 5's cliff-hanger. Find out if the away team can stop the aliens from murdering 19th century Humans, and if Data really dies!

128. "Realm Of Fear" - Lt. Barclay returns in this episode which involves the transporter, terrifying visions and hallucinations, and

crossing a threshold of no return.

129. "Man Of The People" - Troi is drastically transformed when a visiting ambassador secretly uses her to achieve his aims.

130. "Relics" - The eagerly awaited Scotty episode! In an uncharted corner of the galaxy, Scotty is found stuck in stasis in a transporter beam on a ship for the past 75 years in order to prevent himself from starving. After beaming aboard the Enterprise-D, he finds himself in a world of friendly Klingons, 'new-fangled' gadgetry and synthohol (which is no substitute for real brandy!) But though he has tales to tell, he yearns for real action, and the "Miracle Worker" lives up to his name when he helps the crew save their ship from disaster!

131. "Schisms" - An experiment of terror begins on board the Enterprise. *Aliens invade the Enterprise, conducting Human experiments until crew members start piecing events together.*

132. "True Q" - The first of two possible Q episodes. When a young lady discovers her Q powers, it could cost her life and the lives of the crew of the Enterprise. Guest starring Olivia d'Abo (*The Wonder Years*!).

133. "Rascals" - Children rule the Enterprise when a bizarre transporter malfunction transforms Captain Picard, Guinan, Keiko and Ensign Ro into 12-year old children! All this just when the Ferengi decide to invade and disable the ship! Directed by Adam Nimoy (*Leonard's son*). *Picard is played by David Tristram Birkin, who played his nephew Rene in Family. Former Ferengi players Mike Gomez and Tracey Walter are both back in different Ferengi roles. This source says Guinan isn't one of the ones reduced to children.*

134. "A Fistful Of Datas" - This is directed by Patrick Stewart, and with a title like that I'd bet you'd never guess it was a western! In it, Data plays 6, yes, that's SIX characters! *[Alexander invites Worf and Troi into a role-playing game in the Holodeck. He has Barclay program a Wild West scenario but has not banked upon an experiment by Geordi and Data. The experiment involves linking Data's positronic brain to the ship's computer and gradually every character in the*

*Holodeck takes on Data's personality...! - Info TV Zone 36]*

135. "The Quality Of Life" - *Data befriends an artificial life form.* Directed by Jonathan Frakes.

136. "Chain of Command, pt. 1" - The first of a two-part episode where Captain Picard is relieved of duty to lead an undercover mission against the Cardassians with the help of Worf and Beverly. *Word says this is a "sort of" tie-in to the Deep Space Nine premiere.*

137. "Chain Of Command, pt. 2" - Part 2 of above!

#### Other News:-

A few episode rumours are now floating around about other possible 6th season TNG episodes.

"Limits" - Strange things which begin to happen aboard the Enterprise lead to a discovery that warp engines are environmentally damaging the fabric of space.

"The Rivals" - Whilst in competition with each other, Geordi and a rival renew their relationship while the Enterprise tries to get rid of an alien plane.

Other rumours of two 'Q' episodes this season. One very big rumour which could prove very interesting is that Arnold Schwarzenegger may be in an episode of TNG!

Apparently having resolved the slight trouble with using Sherlock Holmes in TNG, it is said that the character will now be able to return in a future episode.

Worf will be getting yet another new bumpy forehead!

Finally, Jonathan Frakes is scheduled to direct around four episodes this season, and Deep Space Nine is set to premiere the week of 11 January, '93.

The differences between Michelle Forbes and

the producers of TNG have been resolved and Ensign Ro returns in "Rascals" - Info TV Zone 36.

## STAR TREK ON VIDEO

Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country has had its video release date put back to December.

Season six of ST:TNG will be released by CIC as soon as Season five are all on the shelves. At the current pace of two tapes a month, Time's Arrow Pt 2 should be in shops by March. Covers for the season six videos are already in preparation.

CIC video still hope to release episode one of Deep Space Nine in April.

Word has reached TV Zone that CIC plan to repackage certain videos, including the entire Star Trek back catalogue, in card boxes to be sold at £5.99. This is unconfirmed at present and it is uncertain if the re-packaged tapes will still be sold in plastic cases for those who prefer them.

- Info TV Zone 36

## MISC

"Virtual Reality in Star Trek Venture"  
Leisure Week. 20/10/92. Paramount Pictures and US retail giant Edison Brothers have joined forces to develop a chain of Star Trek-themed entertainment centres. The first site is to open next summer in a US shopping mall.

The centres will be based on the ST:TNG television series and will allow customers to play various roles from the series in areas including the bridge, the transporter room and the shuttle bay. There will also be restaurant and merchandising areas.

According to Waldern, chief executive officer of W Industries, "The whole centre will be a complete virtual reality, with big screen displays on the bridge, video screen selection of food in the restaurant area and so on."

"We will be supplying our immersive Virtuality systems for the shuttle bay and for the transporter room, which will allow people to experience being beamed down on to the surface of an alien planet and exploring it as a group."

The licensing deal only covers the US at the moment, but we'd like to move out to the rest of the world if demand is there, Waldern said.

## The World's Most Popular Television Series

These are the most popular television series in the world as of March 31st, 1992, according to the 1993 Guinness Book of Entertainment Facts. This information was tabulated at the 33rd annual International Broadcaster's Convention in Cannes, France, this past March.

	Million viewers/week
1 Star Trek	213.5
2 The Muppet Show	211.2
3 Sesame Street	207.4
4 World of Disney	199.0
5 Little House on the Prairie	192.3
6 Bug Bunny/Roadrunner	173.4
7 Coronation Street	116.2
8 ST:TNG	114.8
9 The Beachcombers	108.3
10 Doctor Who	103.1

(info Atavachron, USS Resolution, Victoria, Canada)

Planet Hollywood Restaurant has been given a model of the Enterprise to hang up so people can look at it while eating a burger - (info Entertainment Tonight & CNN)

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

## Solution to Original Trek Crossword

Across 2) Pon, 3) Leila, 8) Trelane, 9) Kobayashi, 10) Merik, 13) Science, 15) Miri, 16) Kang, 18) Yeoman, 19) Nomad, 21) Far, 22) Kiss, 23) Maru, 25) Ale, 26) Mudd, 27) Odonia.

Down 1) Corbomite, 4) Land, 5) Jeffries, 6) Daystrom, 7) Isis, 8) Time, 9) Khan, 11) Klingon, 12) Montgomery, 13) Space, 14) Promised, 17) Beagle, 20) Diana, 23) M5, 24) Red.



# ACTOR NEWS



**William Shatner** - Rescue 911 hosted by William Shatner is being shown in the London area (LWT) during the night. Sky One viewers have the 30 min version, Rescue, every weekday night at 18.00.

"It's Enterprising Capt. Kirk" New York Post 29/6/92.

On the heels of its success with "Growing Up Brady" - Barry Williams' memoir of "The Brady Bunch" as told to Chris Kreski - Harper Collins is planning a similar words-and-pictures book on the making of the old "Star Trek" series. It will be told to Kreski by William Shatner, a.k.a. Captain Kirk.

According to an industry source the book was sold to Harper Collins for just under a million dollars. William Shatner's agent and Harper Collins deny that a deal has been made yet.

Shatner has just turned in the manuscript of "Tek Vengeance", which Putnam will publish in January.

**William Shatner & Leonard Nimoy** are bringing out a book together. It was promoted on Arsenio Hall.

**William Shatner & James Doohan** will appear in the movie "Loaded Weapon" - a spoof of the "Lethal Weapon" films and in the vein of "Naked Gun" and "Airplane". Bill portray a drugs baron and has a moustache. We're not sure what part Jimmy play. (info Beyond Antares.)

**George Takei** will be appearing as the Mirror Master in the pantomime Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs in Brighton at The Dome, Dec 18th - Jan 9th, '93. For details of the Charity Gala see under Convention Adverts.

Stanley Adams (Cyrano Jones) appeared in the Twilight Zone episode, "Once Upon a Time" with Buster Keaton Ch. 4 17/10/92. Jill Ireland (Leila Kalomi) appeared in the Man From U.N.C.L.E. episode, "The Tigers are Coming Affair". BBC 2 16/10/92.

The following info is extracted from Bjo Trimble's Space Time Continuum, August 1992. See zine ads for ordering details.

**Gene Roddenberry** - American Jewish Congress 'Mosaic' Honor: Maimonides Intergroup Relations Award in recognition of his TNG efforts to enhance communications & understanding between diverse social groups & established role models reflecting different cultures, races, religion or life styles, bringing the audience into contact with another culture in a positive way. Rick Berman and Majel will accept the award on 22/10/92.

Gene's story, The God Thing, has hit a snag. Publication date is uncertain.

**William Shatner** is in Underground, a subway murder film. He directs a Kung Fu - The Legend Continues episode in Toronto.

**Leonard Nimoy:** Vincent is out on video.

**Patrick Stewart** During the summer hiatus he filmed "Gunman" in Mexico & "Death Train" in Slovenia. Patrick gets 4 weeks leave from TNG to bring "A Christmas Carol" back to New York Dec 15 - Jan 3 at Broadhurst. Next Spring he plays Daddy Warbucks in the non-musical sequel to "Annie".

"MGM: When the Lion Roars", hosted by Patrick Stewart, received an Emmy for best Informational series.

Playboy interviewed Patrick for an upcoming issue.

**Michael Dorn** hosted "The Future Is Now: Sci-Fi Preview" USA Network special, shown Sept 20th. "Future" then moves to the Sci-Fi Channel - no news on whether Michael remains with it.

**Whoopi Goldberg** got "Distinguished Work In Film" at American Cinema Awards, attended by: Stewart, Frakes, Dorn, McFadden, Spinner, Sirtis, Jane Wyatt & Ricardo Montalban.

Whoopi co-hosted Hurricane Relief, benefit concert and telethons for Andrew victims and

also "Rock the Vote" show. "The Whoopi Goldberg Show" is syndicated in 180+ stations.

Glamour Magazine nominated her "92 Woman of the Year".

Whoopi's first book, "Alice" is an urban Fairy Tale version of Alice in Wonderland to get

kids to think about things differently.

**Colm Meany** filmed "The Commitments" & "Far and Away" in home town Dublin, Ireland. He's in "The Last of the Mohicans" and "Under Siege" (villain).

☆☆☆☆

## STAR TREK IN THE NEWS

compiled by Janet Qarton

The purpose of this column is to let you know which magazines to look out for as well as letting you know some of what has been printed in the papers. Most magazines are available from the book shops in the info sheets and you can often get back issues of newspapers if you write to the publisher.

**ST THE OFFICIAL FAN CLUB 87** Sept/Oct 1992.

Articles on Patrick Stewart (pt 1), The Animated Voyages of Star Trek, Star Trek Federation Science (an Exhibition which will be travelling to 10 US cities during its 3-year run) and Deep Space 9.

**ST THE OFFICIAL FAN CLUB 88** Nov/Dec 1992.

Articles on Patrick Stewart (pt 2), Sound Mixing on TNG, and Deep Space 9.

**STARLOG 184** November 1992. Includes an article on William Schallert who played Nilz Barris in Trouble With Tribbles.

**ST: THE NEXT GENERATION 21** (Starlog)

Articles on Naren Shankar (Academy instructor in First Duty), Peter Allan Fields (writer of Cost of Living & Inner Light, co-producer DS9), Rick Kolbe (director of 11 episodes including Darmock), Les Landau (director), Ralph Phillips (writer of Suddenly Human). Mission Reports Cause & Effect, The First Duty, Cost of Living, The Perfect Mate, Imaginary Friend, I, Borg, The Next Phase & Inner Light.

**TV ZONE 35** October 1992. Includes articles

on; Brent Spiner (pt 2), Deep Space 9 and reviews of the ST books The New Voyages and Sanctuary.

**TV ZONE 36** November 1992. Includes an article on Dwight Schultz who plays Barclay and a review of the TNG novel War Drums.

**TV ZONE SPECIAL #7** Supernatural Special Includes articles on original ST and TNG.

**STAR TREK POSTER BOOKS**

Issue 30 - Articles on The Prime Directive, The Hunted & The High Ground.

Issue 31 - Articles on John de Lancie, Deja Q & A Matter of Perspective.

Issue 32 - Articles on Yesterday's Enterprise & The Offspring.

Issue 33 - Articles on Colm Meaney, Sins of the Father and Allegiance.

**STARBURST 170** October 1992. Includes an interview with Brent Spiner, a short article about Scotty in TNG, and John Brosnan's opinion of Star Trek.

**STARBURST SPECIAL #13** Star Trek Special. Includes articles on Deep Space 9, the Making of STVI, Starfleet Academy - The lost ST 6, Data's Days, TNG Season 5, an index of ST articles in Starburst and TV Zone, ST Conventions, ST Klingons and the TNG episode Unification.

**EPI-LOG JOURNAL #5.** Nov-Dec 1992.

Gene Roddenberry Tribute Issue. Contains articles on both original Trek and TNG plus Gene's pilots for Genesis II and Planet Earth.

"Trekology The Next Generation" San Jose Mercury News 9/6/92

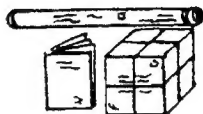
This article explains that the production designers on Star Trek have introduced many concepts that are only 10 or 20 years from changing our lives. Medical technology might create something like the medical scanner in the next century; two-way video

could be in most homes in 10 years; the technology for the personal communicator (badge) is available today, but not in an affordable price; a computer which and function as accurately as a human translator could be with us in 50 years. The writer doesn't seem very hopeful about faster than light travel, androids or transporters.

☆☆☆☆



## MERCHANDISE



compiled by Janet Quarton

### BOOKS -

Oct **RELICS** by Michael Jan Friedman. A novel based on the TNG Episode guest starring Jimmy Doohan as Scotty.

Nov **NIGHT SHADE** (TNG 24) by Laurel Hamilton. The Enterprise crew are sent to Oriana to help negotiate a settlement to 200 year war. As Picard, Worf and Troi beam down the Enterprise is called away. The Away Team find that some people would rather finish the war than talk peace. When Picard is accused of murder Worf and Troi must unravel the truth.

Dec **PROBE** (Giant Novel) by Margaret Wander Bonanno. This novel follows on where STTV left off. It reveals the secrets behind the mysterious probe that almost destroyed Earth - and whose reappearance sends Kirk, Spock and their shipmates hurtling into unparalleled danger... and unsurpassed discovery.

**BEST DESTINY** by Diana Carey. A new hardcover. The story of James Kirk as a teenager on his first adventure in space with his father George Samuel Kirk - an adventure which gives young James Kirk his first look at a Starship called the USS Enterprise. The author mixes the past and present of Star Trek in this novel.

**THE STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION COMPANION** by Larry Nemecek. A complete show-by-show guide

to the first 5 seasons of TNG - includes over 150 b/w photos.

**THE STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION CHRONOLOGY** by Mike Okuda (soft cover, 8"x11", 192 pages in b/w - \$14). ISBN 0-617-79611-9 TF & F. This comprehensive Star Trek 'history book' details every event in the ponderous Trek mythos - from Captain Kirk's birth and his tenure as Captain of the Enterprise, to Picard and Co's Next Generation exploits. Illustrated throughout with more than 150 photographs, the History of the Future also features log entries - indexed to actual Earth date calendars' for total Trek authenticity. A must-have for dedicated fans to both Star Trek series. (source: Previews - pub. Diamond Comic Distributors Inc.) [info John Stubbley]

### VIDEOS -ST:TNG

CIC are be continuing their release of 5th season TNG videos.

Redemption II/Darmok (51)

Ensign Ro/Silicon Avatar (52)

Disaster/The Game (53)

Unification I & II (54)

#### Due Next

A Matter of Time/New Ground (55)

Hero Worship/Violations (56)

The Masterpiece Society/Conundrum (57)

Power Play/Ethics (58)

The Outcast/Cause and Effect (59)

The First Duty/Cost of Living (60)

The Perfect Mate/Imaginary Friend (61)

I Borg/The Next Phase (62)

**Star Trek - The Motion Picture** - the extended version is available at Woolworths.

Customer Services, 138 Bromley Road, London SE6 1BP

**Star Trek Costume Patterns - Original Series** - Pattern No. 8028 (size XXS-LG). Price £2.50 inc. p&p. Iron-on Transfers for 3 official insignias included. Part of the 2-hour Express Collection. Simplicity Patterns (Holdings) Ltd., Blantyre, Glasgow G72 0XL.

**The Official Star Trek Insignia Collection in Silver and Gold.** Franklin Mint. Twelve emblems, individually minted in sterling silver and selectively accented with gold. The collection includes the series Command insignia, the Vulcan IDIC, the Pennant of the UFP, the Standard of the Klingon Empire, the Romulan Bird of Prey insignia and the Emblem of the Federation Alliance. The price of each insignia is £49, payable in 2 instalments - they only seem to be available as a set. For more info write to Franklin

**A.H. Prismatic** have released some more items. These include ST:TNG laser visors which diffract light into a rainbow of colours and a range Star Trek Hologram Jewelry in 5 designs - Enterprise 1701 Shape, Enterprise 1701-D Shape, Printed Enterprise 1701, Printed Enterprise 1701-D, Delta Shield Shape. Most of the bookshops which carry ST merchandise should have these.

**FUTURESHOCK**, Science Fiction/Star Trek Books & Comics, 89 Byres Road, G11 5HN. Tel No: 041 339 8184. This is an excellent bookshop who regularly have tables at the Away Team Meetings in Glasgow. They are increasing the range of Star Trek merchandise which they import from the States.

☆☆☆☆



We welcome your letters of comment and discussion for this section on the understanding that they will be printed and may be edited for length or content at our discretion.

Some pointers: When referring to anything in a previous n/l make it clear what you are talking about for those who do not have that newsletter.

Keep your letters as short as possible - a maximum of 700-750 words or one of 'our' pages. If you find this impossible consider whether you should be writing an article instead. Longer letters will be edited for length. Where more than one person responds to a question with similar answers we may edit out some of these just so that we can get more in the newsletter.

We encourage active discussion, but please try to avoid negative and aggressive letters.

If you make a request which requires

members to write to you please give your address.

Keep letters on a separate sheet from other submissions and put 'for postbag'.

#### **Sheila Clark - Dundee**

First, my 'puzzle' from last N/L - 'ghoti' spells 'fish'. Gh as in 'enough', o as in 'women' and ti as in 'nation'. Now - if that was how 'fish' was spelled would you really like to find it in a dictionary if you didn't speak English? In a hurry?

To Nicole Comtet - Your comment about the Enterprise crew not speaking Klingonese - "Why should they?" struck me as unusual coming from someone like you who does in fact speak at least one foreign language extremely fluently. It seems to me to be more in keeping with the insular attitude of the British, many of whom seem to believe that all foreigners should speak English ("even Klingons speak standard") and

comparatively few of whom do in fact have more than a school-taught, reluctant nodding acquaintance with any other language.

The universal translator is useful, yes, but even the best mechanical translator will fall short when trying to translate idiomatic phraseology - though I admit, unless a person understands a language well, (s)he will have the same problems - "I understand the words but I don't know what it means!" Which is why I maintain that senior Communications Officers, at least, are likely to have a solid grasp of the Klingon language. Their expertise with the language will fill any gaps left by the universal translator.

To Paul Hulford - a working life of 18 - 95? No, no, NO!!!! You just have to look at the number of people of 50 (or even less) who today would love to be retired (depending on their work). Seriously, though, it seems to me that if those in work were to work 30 years longer (indeed, even five years longer), teenage unemployment - come to that, unemployment in all age groups - would snowball, unless you also postulated a massive drop in world population... but then the demand for manufactured goods would also drop. O.K., something would probably have to be done to give those who had no hobbies, no interests, something to keep them occupied. But please, 40 - 50 working years is, I think, enough for most folk!

Colonies could present a different situation, of course; at least new ones might - there, it probably would be necessary to work all the years God gave you in an attempt to make the colony self-supporting - though long-established ones would, I think, probably be in the same position as the planet their populations originally came from unless they operated a carefully-planned birth rate. I suppose one possibility would be to go back to hand-crafted goods instead of mass-produced.

To Neil Barrett - MS Murdock is, I now think, female. Recently I decided to reread some old zines, circa 1976-77, and a Ms MS Murdock appeared in a couple of issues of Berengaria as a poet and artist. It would be quite a coincidence if this wasn't the same

person who wrote Web of the Romulans.

### Lloyd Lewis - Bridgend

I will from the very near future have access to modern technology, so if either Eddie or Margaret would like to contact me with details of what I should be looking for I'll be glad to try to take some of the workload from them.

Considering the current expense of collecting the TNG vids, and the forthcoming simultaneous release of DS9, does anyone know anyone who could gainfully employ my six-and-three-year-olds?

Several people commented on DC's Debt of Honour. I was going to write a review but I'm too lazy. It's obviously written by a fan, it's a Trekker's wish-list brought to life, and very well done. My only complaint is the cop-out on the assault by Klingon Stormtroopers. Expensive at £12, but worth collecting.

Talking of collecting, Julie's bought me a hologram of the Enterprise (which I can't actually get my covetous claws on 'til Christmas). Can anyone advise me on the best way of displaying it? Would an individual narrow-beam spot enhance its effect? And if so, where would one get such a thing?

The Aliens comics that I'm after are the Trident reprints, thanks to everyone who phoned.

I'm glad Julie was wrong about the holodeck, but is he found in stasis or trapped as a result of a transporter accident? I don't believe the latter - if Bones had ever had his suspicions confirmed he'd never have been seen in Encounter at Farpoint!

To Sheila Clark - Ghoti is more commonly pronounced "fish".

To Eddie Yau/Edward Woo - C-in-C meeting. Just because they weren't 'obviously' alien, do we *know* they were Human? Edward only - Star Wreck (I & II). A parody is primarily defined as a humorous imitation of an author's characteristics.

Secondary meanings are a travesty and/or a feeble imitation. The former definition is obviously inapt as is the superlative 'excellent'; either of the latter definitions are more suitable. More suitable yet is my personal definition of Rewolinski's amateurish scribbles; they are a puerile effort at a piss-take which would be more appropriate in a kindergarten.

To Kay Stagg - as Klingons present varying appearances perhaps their empire also has differing languages. The Enterprise was, I believe, trying to sneak in through a back-water. Uhura may speak the main dialect(s) but couldn't handle a lesser-used version?

To Elena Bond - No, being unable 'to perform, etc' does neither remove nor negate one's humanity. As for Data, we are assured by Tasha Yar in *The Naked Now* that he is fully functional.

To Lloyd Lewis - have you nothing better to do than drivel on like this?

To Ann McMillan - if you want to know how to write con reports, just copy our very own Helen White - party animal extraordinary.

To Kathleen Glancy - Cardigan - P16; "...a man in his late forties," Nice try, no banana.

To Marion Pritchard - Men don't like clever women? Choice 1 - I don't like clever *anyone*! Choice 2 - I'll let you know when I find one.

To Jon Vernon - I fervently hope that there are national differences in the 24th century; bland is the word that springs to mind otherwise. 1701-D doesn't have the character of NCC 1701.

To Ishtiaq Huassin - No pictures. I like comics too, but the interaction achieved by IDIC is more important.

To Taruka Queuhtezcatl - Did you mean to write inferred or implied? And no, because the logical extrapolation of that

argument would be the eradication of all transplant surgery. I hope that we're all carrying our donor cards. If time travel ever becomes possible then history would stop. Dead. Because there'd be so many rubberneckers at every historical event that the protagonists wouldn't have the room to get on with creating history!

To Jeff Martin - welcome back! We'd been worrying. But the first person accounts of cons are fascinating if you're waiting for the names of mutual friends to pop up. Hardback books are my life. If you're going to buy the paperback anyway what does it matter if it's been published previously in hardback? Why on earth would anyone want to discourage Pocket from printing them? If you don't want to pay the hardback price, wait for the paperback edition. Hardbacks are actually far better value for money anyway.

To Steven Gibb - To my certain knowledge it was the very importance of the Khitomer conference that caused the non-interception of the Enterprise. Every man and woman of every ship of the defensive screen had been bored to sleep by the commentary by Jon Kole.

To Ann Peters - Ladies, all these comments on 'lack of exposure' 'manly contours' and so on. Imagine what would be the reaction of some MCP had been making similar remarks? And then to complain that Asimov's sexist!

To Eddie Yau - ref 'tiny... disadvantage'. Read 'The Far Arena' by Ben Sapis. If you've seen Worf in a low-cut dress you'd realise why they don't make a regular thing of it!

To Michael Mazza - you wanna read fiction? You buya the zines!

To Rebekah Owens - It's 'Beyond Antares' that awards the grovelling prizes; here you just get edited out!

**Lesley Arrowsmith - Cusop, Herts**

To Sheila - isn't it 'fish', according to Bernard Shaw? (ghoti, that is). Allen tells me

it was also mentioned in Batman - something to do with the Penguin!

To Taruka Queuhtezcatl & Barry O'Doherty - I heard John Gribbin speak earlier this year on time travel, and according to him, what Barry said in N/L 23 is quite right. He also said that according to current theory, there is a way to build a time machine. You take a very long piece of cosmic string and thread 10 black holes on it, all spinning in the same direction!

Cosmic string is, as far as I know, theoretical, but it's supposed to account for a lot of the 'hidden' mass of the universe. Astronomers have calculated the total mass of the universe and it's much more than can be explained by the stars, etc., that we can detect. Hence there must be something invisible to make up the rest. It's supposed to be 1 molecule thick, and the Enterprise must have cut through an awful lot of it in her travels!

I just got my copy of the Good Beer Guide, and noticed that one of the independent brewers is the Federation Brewery (est 1919) and that Featherstones, a new Leicester brewery, brews Vulcan Bitter! (Unhappily, this refers to the road where the brewery stands.)

#### Robert Kirkwood, Newmilns, Ayrshire

To Helen White - always enjoy your reports - you make a normal situation hilarious. Regarding mundanes in your Rec-Con report, I was reminded of Contagion when two fellow Klingons and I walked from our room to the Stewards' Room in half makeup - ie normal clothes with brown faces and turtle heads. It was all we could do to walk past people and not laugh... never mind getting into a lift with an elderly couple.

Re Uhura not speaking Klingon. With the universal translator so readily available there is no need to be fluent in any language other than standard. Whatever the reason, I still feel that it made for a funny scene in the film and provided some comic relief from a tense moment. Also in a recent interview carried out by the KLI (Klingon Language Institute), Marc Ocran stated that no-one he knows is fluent in Klingon and doubts that

anyone ever will be. However, a Klingon version of Henry V is being translated as we speak.

To Ronnie Reid - Klingons are the bad guys and always will be, Worf being the exception that proves the rule.

To Eddie Yau - re no aliens at the C-in-C meeting. Not all aliens appear as such from the outside, eg Betazoids, Alpha Centaurians, Human-fusion Klingons, etc.

To Jeff Martin - I find that 'first person accounts on con-attendees weekends' are great. I find that they can be funny and very easy to relate to. After all, a convention is all about meeting people, buying things in the dealers' room, getting time off work, and everything else you mentioned.

To Morag Phillips - get in touch. You only live about 5 miles away from me and you've probably got loads of videos for me to borrow... Only kidding.

To the Contagion committee - great job. I had an amazing weekend.

To everyone else - the last free issue of Bird of Prey will be available in November. For a copy send an SAE (same size as IDIC) to 2 Isles Terrace, Newmilns, Ayrshire, Scotland, KA16 9JZ.

#### Philip Morley - Fleetwood, Lancs

To Sheila Clark - yes, Uhura should have known how to speak Klingonese, as she is the Communications Officer, and I thought that scene was ridiculous. It was the only real weak point of the film. But I don't think that ALL Klingons know how to speak standard English. Certainly the higher-ranking ones will, but not your ordinary warrior. He would learn how to kill Terrans, but not how to speak their language or learn their culture. I think the reason we hear Klingons speaking in English to one another is because Star Trek is a Human show, and so to listen to Klingonese and to understand it is a little bit difficult, and people get a bit tired of reading sub-titles all the time. Anyway, I don't think that the Klingons would speak in their enemy's language to one another unless they

wanted to insult each other, do you?

To Lloyd Lewis - I'm not 100% certain what the natural lifespan of a Klingon is, but a warrior must die in battle before he is aged 35. If he doesn't he goes into dishonour.

To Baerbel Schmidt - I agree, there should be more female officers in command roles on board the Enterprise, but certainly not Shelby! Anyway, as long as Picard remains Captain of the Enterprise and Riker First Officer, there's no place for her. If Patrick Stewart decides to leave, Riker will become Captain of the Enterprise - he's the most likely choice. But I wouldn't want Shelby to take his place. Having a Vulcan back on the bridge of the Enterprise would be nice, but if Shelby came back, I'm sure Riker wouldn't get on well with her (any more than he did in Best of Both Worlds), and having a Captain who didn't get on with his First Officer wouldn't be practical.

Some people have been saying that Scott Bulka (Sam Beckett - Quantum Leap) would make an excellent choice for Commanding Officer of DS9. Well, I don't know about anyone else, but if this were so, I'd be expecting Al and Ziggy to turn up here, there and everywhere!

Finally, to Jon Vernon - I have the TNG main title notes at home; if you drop me a line I'll send you a copy. My address is 407 Fleetwood Road, Fleetwood, Lancs, FY7 8HN.

### **Marion Pritchard - Plymouth**

Re Spock's marriage - I was just as puzzled as some others about this. Last year, while in the USA on holiday, we picked up a TV Guide, as it featured a major article about Trek. I quote - "...there's also rumoured to be a romance (and maybe even a marriage) between Spock and Vulcan Lt. Valeris..." Anyone who has ever had a look at - or even read and survived - the National Enquirer knows what happens to stories in that publication... I suppose other papers, etc, took over the story and turned it into a bit of hype. I must admit, when I went to see the film, I was waiting in vain and trying to spot anything at all that might have been romantic, but did not find my efforts crowned

with any success whatever.

Are conventions, especially Trek ones, becoming too cliquey? The first time I went to a Trek con I was glad I was with my hubby, because the scene was groups of people who obviously knew each other well sitting together, and my first attempts to meet people were pretty unsuccessful. I remember seeing a bloke with an IDIC T-shirt walking down the stairs, and said something like, "Hi, I'm a member of IDIC too"; the reply was a look of contempt and the guy just walked off. Maybe he had a bad day, but if I had been on my own, I don't think I would have felt very encouraged.

Again K/S - O.K., some people like to think or write about how things could be if... but some of the fanzines I happened to pick up and which did not contain a warning as to their contents, had rather explicit descriptions of Spock torturing Kirk mentally and sexually, and I must admit I can't see the purpose of stories like those. However, I can see the value of K/S as described by Valerie Piacentini and would be willing to give those a try. I would not mind a good story, but do not need a biology lesson.

Spotted, sprayed along the top of the wall of the Co-op building in the centre of Jerusalem - "TO BOLDLY SPRAY WHERE NO ONE SPRAYED BEFORE!"

### **Dave Styles - Ashford, Kent**

As a child some twenty years ago the highlight of my week was the Monday night visit to my grandmother's house. Having won a considerable amount of money on the football pools, she was one of the few who had a colour television and Monday night was Star Trek night. Now I can't remember how long it is since the BBC last showed the original Trek, but I left home in September 1984 and it hasn't been on in the south since then. In those eight years since leaving home I kept up the enchantment with many and various paperback books and the occasional hardback book, to say nothing of six brilliant movies and a whole new galaxy class starship full of Trek. When, a few weeks ago, I heard that the Beeb was going to repeat the original series, I was somewhat excited, to say the

least.

Now perhaps I recall my childhood through rose-coloured glasses, perhaps the libraries of Trek tell the wrong story. I was disappointed; I had been let down badly. Scotty, the engineering marvel, just stands helplessly watching Spock perform the miracles. Spock, with total emotional control, grins like an idiot at all and sundry. Kirk shouts and hollers with hardly a good word for anyone. Any character in a red uniform apart from Scott or Uhura is usually dead before the end of the episode. Anyone supposedly lying down dead fidgets about like a thing possessed. Any female apart from Uhura, Chapel or Rand is usually goosed by the Captain before the closing credits. I am sorry, but how can anyone prefer this to TNG?

And now we have another Trek in the pipeline, Deep Space 9. Everyone seems to have an opinion on the matter. All I will say is, it's coming so make the most of it. It cannot be worse than the original!

P.S. May I offer my warmest thanks to IDIC for deciding to help blind people. My best friend, who was best man at my wedding, is nearly blind, and his younger brother has the same visual problem and will also eventually lose his sight. Consequently, raising money for the visually impaired is a subject close to my heart. It is good that IDIC is helping a proper charity such as the Guide Dogs and not subsidising the funding of a government-run institution such as a school or a hospital.

P.P.S. Have you ever noticed that in Trek, characters called 'Styles' are nasty - see Balance of Terror and STII:TSFS. Should I take this personally?!

### **Baerbel Schmidt - Ashford, Kent**

I find this discussion on whether Uhura should have been able to speak Klingonaase quite amusing. I think in the Federation it is perhaps generally common to think that Federation standard (probably English) is sufficient. Perhaps some people learn some basics of other languages but generally rely on translators. Also,

Klingonaase is always described as a very difficult language, both in grammar and pronunciation. Uhura probably has some knowledge of Klingonaase, but not enough to handle this difficult situation without the help of a dictionary. I think if she had no knowledge at all of Klingonaase she could never have found the right words and couldn't pronounce them properly. This situation in which Uhura was amused me because I remembered my first impressions of England. I was surprised how much the English in general rely on others speaking their language. In Germany, the vast majority speak English, but in England I found hardly anybody who speaks another language. Well, German may not be as difficult to learn as Klingonaase but it is certainly more difficult than English. By the way, our Chancellor Kohl is one of the few German politicians who doesn't speak English.

I read about the proposed Star Trek II series a long time ago, somewhere in a Starlog magazine. Although there are some good ideas in it, I couldn't feel comfortable with these characters. The main reason must be that I didn't like ST:TMP at all. For me it is even worse than ST V. Decker was a very pale character (he is certainly no Riker) and Ilia may have similar powers to Deanna but their characters are very different (to Eddie Yau - you see, I don't agree with you!) I also don't agree to most of the other comparisons, but they are interesting. It would be boring if everybody had the same opinion and it's this diversity that makes the postbag so interesting.

More to Eddie Yau - I think also every man would be at a 'rather severe disadvantage', in fighting Arnold Schwarzenegger, unless it was a trained body builder (by the way there are also female body builders). This example is really unfair to Deanna. Also Tasha would avoid a hand to hand combat with a physically much stronger opponent but try to outwit him and use distance weapons. A trained Deanna would not be better or worse than Tasha. Fine, Deanna likes nice clothing that shows her beauty. Why not? Deanna is a beautiful, sensitive woman and I don't see why she

should hide that. Also Ro and Beverly wore low-cut clothing off duty and I think nothing of it. The only difference is that Deanna doesn't wear a regular uniform. If you really think that more males (certainly not females) watch TNG so that they can stare at Deanna's body (even with low-cut dresses her breasts were always covered so that there is not much skin to see), I pity these men - if they really exist. Deanna is attractive, but as Worf said in *The Dauphin*, the body is just a shell and a man would be incredibly stupid if he only looks at the outside and doesn't care what person the woman really is. I know male Trekkers. They like Deanna's looks but they are not undressing her with their eyes - they see the whole picture. You may say that women are not men, and you are right. There are also physically attractive men in *Star Trek* but I wouldn't like them if I didn't like their character. Men who want to watch 'sex appeal' are better off with a porno movie anyway. You are a Classic fan, no doubt. Do you really think men are watching Classic because they want to stare at the female crew's miniskirts or admire Uhura's exotic beauty and her long legs? It is only natural to recognise beauty but that is no reason for Classic's or TNG's success.

One last thing - what do you think Marina Sirtis, as an honorary member of the club, thought when reading that she is in TNG for more sex appeal? Beauty or not, Deanna Troi is a person, not a sex object, and should be treated as one.

#### **Paul Greenstreet - Margate**

As a relatively new member I thought it was about time I put pen to paper. I'd like to say, firstly, just how much I enjoy reading the newsletter, especially the Postbag, and I'd like to bring up a few points. (Please bear with me if you've covered any of these before - as I said, I'm new to this!)

To Lisa Dearnley-Davison - the film is called *Lifeforce* and was directed by Tobe Hooper and starred Steve Railsback, Peter Firth, Frank Finlay & Nicholas Ball. It is available on video from The Video Collection, ref. no. VC3291.

To Chris Bailey - I don't think £10.99 is

bad value for a video, but I do agree that the cost soon mounts up if you want to collect the lot (like me!) On the whole, though, I think the quality of the CIC releases has been very high. (Out of all the *Trek* videos I have bought, only one has been of really naff quality, and I easily exchanged that for a decent copy.)

What I object to is buying a copy of a film, then finding at a later date that they release 'special' editions, such as 'widescreen' or 'extended' or 'collectors' editions, and of course we all go out and buy them! Speaking of which... CIC has now released (I think it can only be obtained through Woolworths) an extended version of *ST:TMP*, which runs for 138 minutes. I assume this is the special TV version of the film.

Finally, following the discussion of Klingons and their lumpy bits, can anyone explain why TNG Vulcans and Romulans have acquired ridges on their foreheads?

#### **Taruka Queuhtezcatl - Preston**

Firstly - a gentle point to the editors. I found 3 different spellings of my surname in N/L 24. It is not Queuhtezcatl, nor is it the almost unpronounceable Queuhtexcatl, which has quite a different meaning! [Ed - Sorry! Typos do happen and although two of us proofread, some slip through, with mis-spellings of names in particular tending to go unnoticed. We've now got your name established in the spellcheck program.]

To Sheila - I can't argue re Spock's lack of siblings... but I wish whoever it was a Paramount had checked his/her information first!

With regard to comments in N/L 23 about everyone considering actors over 40 to be 'past it'. No-one told Brent Spiner this!

To Elena Bond - I stick by my comment. Firstly Data himself's the first one to admit he's a machine - that's official. However, in order to perform the rather unsavoury act in question it would need quite a bit of extra processing machinery - with or without the help of a malevolent female Q, who would undoubtedly get a rocket from

'our' Q for insulting Data the minute she returned to the continuum. As to Brent Spiner wanting to do this... yes, I can see how that would appeal to his slightly wicked sense of humour - if he can get away with it!

To Lloyd Lewis and anyone else interested - I visit quite a few comic marts as part of a 'raiding party' of five people. I'll quite happily look up back issues if anyone cares to write.

Re my peculiar surname, for anyone who hasn't already asked me or worked out its origins. As far as I know it's from the Nahuatl language of Mexico, spoken by the Aztecs among others. The derivation is Quauhtli - Eagle; Tezcatli - Mirror, which has some quite sinister implications, so I'm told, as both the eagle and the mirror were symbols of the Aztec war god in other guises. As I speak no Nahuatl and understand precious little I can't comment. Should you ever want to pronounce it, it's either 'kwaw-TES-cahl' or 'kwatecahl'.

To Jon Vernon re the Star Trek Fanfare aka Where No Man Has Gone Before. Having played about with my trusty guitar, pan pipes, flutes etc, this might be what you're looking for. *[See at foot of page]*

To Paul Hulford - er, were you asleep or had you emigrated during the broadcast of The Offspring?

To Ann Peters - loved the story about Spot's name. It's still a daft one for a cat.

To Gaile Wood - that's a new one on me 'cos I was taught it was 'symbiote'. You live and learn. Then again, the route from 'simbiota' in Spanish is pretty tortuous!

To Shirley Shatner - thanks for supporting me. There's been some very lax checking of details lately...

To Peter Arnett - can you honestly see Paramount going along with your flashback idea? There was enough fuss when Dorothy Fontana wrote the novel Vulcan's Glory, which resulted in immediate clampdown on all stories set before The Cage or featuring that crew.

To Lesley Hatch - if your 'noise' is the one I'm thinking of, you very probably have Jack Finlay and Joseph G Sorokin to blame for it. According to The Star Trek Interview Book, much of it is jet engine noise, electronically tinkered with.

### Heather Noyce - Bournemouth

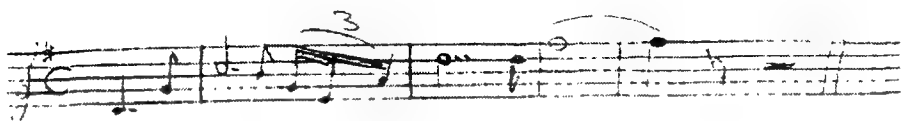
If any fans like William Shatner (who doesn't?) a really great book is out called Captain's Log - William Shatner's personal account of the making of Star Trek V - The Final Frontier as told by Lisbeth Shatner. William Shatner's daughter gives every Star Trek fan a chance to know Captain Kirk as never seen before, and there are also some lovely photos of William Shatner. Published by Titan Books it costs £5.99

### John Stubbley - York

To Neil Barrett & Sheila Clark - O.K.! If you think it's difficult to guess an author's gender from initials, how's about Julian May, then? Despite having two male friends called Julian, I have just realised that Julian May is a woman. So even knowing the full name sometimes is of no help when it comes to gender.

To Lesley Hatch - Hi! I keep meaning to write to you about 'Wizard's Pupil'. If you still remember me, I'll write as soon as things die down here.

Re background noise in N/L 24 - I don't know about the Twilight Zone, but according to The Making of Star Trek (a great book) Douglas Grindstaff was the Classic series Sound Effects Man for Star Trek - if that's what you mean by 'background noise'!



(from the opening to ST V)

### Steve Davies - Huntingdon, Cambs

Thank you for N/L 24 - I do prefer the new style. It is my imagination or do you get more words per page now? [Ed - yes, we do.]

Congratulations (belated, I know) to Lorraine Kelly and whilst I'm on the subject of that sort of thing, I'm rather chuffed to announce that I've just got engaged to the lovely Sandra. (Yes, I know it's nothing whatsoever to do with Trek but I'm so happy I'd like everybody to know!)

I have as yet not given my opinion of STVETUC, so here goes; as promised it was certainly a very dark film, a fantastic story and a beautiful way to end the film series (sure I'll go to see VII but I'm pretty sure it WON'T WORK!!) I've also read the book so like many others I think the Kudao massacre, etc, justifies Kirk's anger at the beginning, but without knowledge of those events in the novel I think anyone would be right in saying Kirk's reaction was a little strong (especially since he seemed to be getting on so well with Klaa at the end of VI!) The idea for the zero-g murders on the Kronos was brilliant; the gravity generator on 23rd century starships must be *the* most heavily shielded area for this not to have happened before in the whole history of Trek!

Christopher Plummer I liked, but I must admit I preferred Christopher Lloyd as Kruge in III. David Warner certainly wasn't wasted this time round as he was in V - but why didn't anyone on the Enterprise say to Gorkon, "Hey, buddy, you bear an almost uncanny resemblance to a Federation Ambassador name of St. John Talbot!" No? Oh, all right, then. The music was incredible, not the sort of thing I find myself whistling in the bath (as I do with James Horner's II & III) but nevertheless quite lovely. The special effects were no improvement on those of the first 4 films (they *were* on those in TFF) but they were adequate for the story. When a shot of a torpedo going straight through the Enterprise makes me cringe, that's when I can say "Well done" to the SFX people. Cringe? I positively SQUIRMED in my seat.

### Lisa Dearnley-Davison - Reading

To Kay Staggs - back to SOL III again!

The reason why the showing of the uncut version of ST:TUC was so packed in the afternoon was 1) that was its scheduled showing (unlike the one in the morning), 2) a lot of us standing had arrived early to get seats for the Guy Vardaman and Richard Arnold talk and after seeing the number of people watching earlier that morning, we didn't expect them to show it again quite that soon - Sunday afternoon might have been a better idea. As to your comment about original Trek, at CONFederation there was an original Trek room but this was given over to TNG when no-one turned up for scheduled episodes. However, anyone wishing to see classic Trek was immediately given access to the video and a room.

To Baerbel Schmidt - You'll be glad to know Ensign Ro is here to stay. There were rumours passing round that because she wanted to go to DS9 she was sacked from TNG, as no actor is being allowed to appear in both unless the story allows it, ie the Enterprise docks at DS9. Hence the reason why we won't see O'Brien in the sixth season. Michelle Forbes, however, is definitely going to be appearing in more TNG.

**SPOILER ALERT** To Lloyd Lewis - There was a problem a long time ago with a transporter while Scotty and another crew member were transporting. They never came out at the other end! Along comes Enterprise-D, finds the transporter fault and Scotty rematerialises. One Chief Engineer at exactly the same age as when he stepped into the transporter. The holodeck theme is still there, though - he recreates the bridge of the Enterprise (A?) on the holodeck. Those parts of the set were actually rebuilt!

To Lee Sansome - you are perfectly correct! You cannot judge Michael Dorn's delivery to Patrick Stewart's. Why? Because poor Michael has to struggle with an extra set of teeth in his mouth while trying to come out with a load of technobabble. No easy feat!

To all who have complained about Kirk's reaction in TUC - Okay, okay! So the novelisation of TUC explained away Kirk's reaction. Most of what was at the beginning of the book - all those bits where Kirk gets the

message and rounds up the rest - were actually filmed! It was filmed halfway through and was actually in the first script but because the film was over-running on time and budget it was cut and now lies somewhere in the editor's vault. So the book did follow the film fairly closely! And that comes from Guy Vardaman and Richard Arnold at SOL III. [Janet: *What you describe is the unshown prequel, which we detailed in a previous newsletter, not the novel. The prequel does nothing to explain Kirk's feelings about the Klingons.*]

To 'the Ed' on Stephen Shaw's letter about a certain film. YES!!!!!! Finally I know the name of the film. I was getting a lot of strange looks whenever I asked anyone if they had seen it. Which brings me to another question - did anyone else catch Patrick Stewart's performance of a scene from 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' on BBC2 one Saturday morning at about 10.30? I can't remember the part he played but he did it wonderfully.

To Karen Sparks - I agree. Stardates are not that important when it comes to fiction writing, although I will admit that I usually base mine around a certain date even if it's not mentioned. It is handy, however, if the story makes references to episodes or other stories.

Guy Vardaman made an interesting point at CONfederation about TNG's outlook on gays and the fact that many complained about not seeing any on the Enterprise. The reason you don't see anyone who is conspicuously gay is because you don't see anyone who is conspicuously Jewish or Democratic either. As he pointed out, you don't see heterosexuals kissing or holding hands in the corridor (apart from Riker!) so why should you see anyone else? The Outcast, however, deals with the subject excellently. I agree with Helen White; it was rather frightening that the 'bad guys' did what they did.

Someone said they got bored reading reports from cons. I hate to disagree (again) but if it wasn't for those reports I probably wouldn't ever have gone to my first

convention. I happen to like the reports - they give loads of info about the people there and what to expect when you get there. Thank you all those who have done con reports; I shall keep reading them with gusto.

### Mark Dwyer - Leeds

To Colin Mackay - I am afraid I cannot help you as I live in Leeds, but for those people in my area interested I know a few video libraries in Leeds that have a small selection of TNG seasons 4 and 5. These are Video 37 on the ring road (last 4 tapes of season 4, nos 47, 48, 49 & 50, also tapes 51 & 52 of season 5), Sound Images Dewsbury Road (tape 37 season 3 and 38, 39 & 41 of season 4). Video 37 also has all the films, season 1 of TNG and most tapes of the original series. I hope this is some help for the people living in or close to Leeds who have difficulty in getting tapes.

I hope some of you will be coming to Starbase 93; it sounds like it is going to be an excellent convention, especially with the guest appearance of Scotty.

### Liz Caldwell - Penrhyndendreath, Wales

I agree with Russell Witheyman that the fifth season TNG as a whole was not as good as the fourth. The worst, in my opinion, were Masterpiece Society, which really *dragged*, and New Ground - the Worf-orientated stories in the past have been some of the very best episodes, but this one made me cringe. "I apologise for being late, sir, I was detained in school..." What have they done to the warrior Worf?

Concerning the debate about conventions being taken over by TNG episodes and not having the same feel about them as they used to; I've been going to cons since 1977 and feel that showing the latest TNG episodes has injected new enjoyment into them. Hardly anyone used to have Classic Trek on video and being able to watch episodes at cons was as exciting as watching TNG episodes now. The fun and delight of seeing episodes like Tribbles in a room packed with fellow fans was lost for a while when nearly everyone got Classic Trek on video, but that same wonderful experience has returned to cons with the screening of

new TNG. I attended SOL III and was unaware of the trouble with the videos there and am sorry it had to occur. I would like to thank the SOL III committee for a very enjoyable convention.

### **Katrina Heintz - Bathgate**

To Helen White - you're forgiven . I didn't notice the mistake either!

Re Shades of Grey. After reading the opinion poll, I felt I had to write in defence of this episode. This is one of my favourites from the series, and I'm sure there are others who feel the same.

Re BBC v Sky. Why can't we mount a letter campaign to both BBC and Sky to make it clear to both companies not everyone wants satellite or can afford it, and politely request the fourth and fifth seasons to be shown on BBC first. This type of campaign has worked before to save Star Trek and other shows from cancellation; surely it could work here.

### **Gratiennne Vandekerkhove - Belgium**

My intimate closeness with my television set came to an end with the indispensable help of the BBC - I would have to wait till that afore-mentioned illustrious institution decided in their infinite wisdom to show the next season of TNG. However, I couldn't believe my eyes when I saw they broadcast the original series. I put out a LARGE warning sign. Anyone who dares interfere with Wednesday ST risks life and limb!

Re ST VI - I don't know if I am imagining things but I got the impression that the Captain's quarters on the Enterprise and the Excelsior were only slightly larger than an overgrown shoebox - or was that an optical illusion?

To Lorna Elliott - Try Meg Wright, stories available via The Small Printers (see Zine Ads).

To Marion Pritchard - re guinea pigs - should it not be left to the individual in question to decide on their possible exposure as guinea pigs?

To Gary Heron - I know of one reason why retired personnel could be recommissioned, which is war. You only have to look at World War II. I don't think that Starfleet or the Federation could give themselves the luxury of ignoring the tremendous amount of experience the senior officers of the Enterprise have.

### **Lt-Commander K'Tan Vestai Kuragan: 2nd in command. KAG Scotland**

To Edward Woo - we are still working on the Bird of Prey that will fire when cloaked!

To everyone at Contagion - Did you all enjoy the opening ceremony? We received a citation from KAG Kanada and were given promotion for our kidnap of 'Captain Sulu'.

Regarding stewards at conventions - having been a steward at Silvercon, SOL III and Contagion, I would say I do not get paid and I only do it to help out the people who are running the convention. All the stewards get are the first couple of rows in the main hall for guest talks and into the dealers' room before the plebes (sorry, fans!) It is a good way of meeting fellow fans and all you have to do is man a video room or the dealers' room for an hour a day.

To Gaile Wood - come up to Contagion '93 and you can run your nails down my knobby bits!

To all members of IDIC - MERRY KLINGONMAS and A HAPPY TREK YEAR 1993.

### **Dejan Ladika - Slovenia**

I only saw the first season but I know, thanks to the N/L, there is much more. My favourite actor is all Star Trek, but the person who got in my head the most was Lt. Yar. She is my favourite character and I still don't know why Denise Crosby (she is so great) left.

I must tell you, Patrick Stewart filmed his new movie Death Train in Slovenia - in the city of Postojna, which some may know for the famous Postojna Cave.

### Kathleen Glancy - Edinburgh

On the Q Magazine suggestion that T'Pol had an affair with Sarek, her exact relationship to Spock has never been defined but many fan writers contend she is his paternal grandmother. Q Magazine is therefore adding incest to insult and injury.

To Sheila - the English word that might be spelled 'ghoti' is of course 'fish'. *Everyone* knows that. But I certainly agree that Uhura would learn Klingonese - I should think it would be required for those training to be Starfleet Communications Officers. After all, everyone in that field would be aware of how easily a lack of such knowledge can lose wars. The US Army, in World War II, employed Navaho radio operators who passed on messages in their own tongue and drove the Germans and Japanese mad trying to break what they took to be a particularly fiendish code. The Universal Translator is all very well, but in the few seconds it would take to identify the language and activate it, vital information could be lost.

To Kay Stagg - as, from *your* letters, you appear to be a mature and well balanced person I can only assume you are joking when you offer to sharpen your talons on any aspect of Star Trek that I like. Unless you like Kirk and *only* Kirk we could well like some of the same things. Of course you could attack what I like nonetheless, and you might well succeed in upsetting other fans of, say, Spock. What you would not succeed in doing is upsetting *me*. I do not regard *any* character or actor with that degree of intensity that would blind me to their faults or cause me personal distress if anyone criticised them. If it was a well-reasoned critique based on logical argument I would enjoy reading it even if I didn't agree with the premise. If it was simply abusive or based on the argument 'I worship X and therefore Y is a load of rubbish and anyone who doesn't worship X is stupid' I would form such a low opinion of the writer's intellect or maturity that I wouldn't greatly care what they thought. Since I'm sure that any attack you made would come into the first category, you would probably manage to entertain me. Go ahead if you like. The only thing I dislike positively in Star Trek are some of the less pleasant aspects of Kirk's

character and the whole character of Chapel. (Not Majel Barrett, who made as good a job as she could of a limited character and was fine as Number One and is superb as Lwaxana Troi.) This gives you a lot of scope.

Arrrrh! Who transposed two words in the last verse of my poem and lost a rhyme? It should be 'then mean' in the 3rd line, to rhyme with 'youths yet green' in the first. I *know* 'Bonk did not mean then' is better English, but there is such a thing as poetic licence. [Sheila - Sorry! It was not a deliberate change. I thought I'd typed it as you wrote it. It has to be what I call a 'Freudian' typo - where your fingers type what you expect to see rather than what you do see.]

To Helen White - there is a pronoun commonly used in SF for asexual or hermaphrodite races. It is s/he. God knows how you pronounce it. Samuel Delaney, in a post WWII book which had humanity mutated used the prefixes 'la' for females, 'lo' for males and 'le' for those who were neither. Very confusing for readers whose first language was French, who would regard 'le' as the masculine equivalent of 'la'. I haven't seen The Outcast, but I'll bet the title character was played by an actress, not an actor. Any other casting would require great courage on the part of the actor and indeed Jonathan Frakes.

To Taruka Queuntezcatl - I found Don't I Know That Tune? extremely entertaining, but The Minstrel Boy is not a Welsh song. The tune is 'traditional' which means it could have originated anywhere. The lyrics are by Thomas Moore, the quite definitely Irish-born poet. Moore was no Irish Nationalist - as he was popular with the British Establishment, and very prosperous as a result, he had little reason to be - and his Minstrel Boy was not intended to be about Ireland's struggle for independence. Because of the second verse, however, the Nationalists adopted it and it counts as a 'Rebel Song' and indeed can be found in a number of collections of Irish Rebel Songs, notably one by my distant relatives the Clancy Brothers. (My name would be Clancy if my great-grandfather could have spelled better.) That, I think, provides more than sufficient reason

for O'Brien to sing the song. You didn't touch on the animated series, which is a shame because in one episode of that *Scotty* sings in *Welsh*. Now that is a real puzzler. I can only put it down to general American ignorance - I apologise to US members, but some of your countrymen (and women) are ignorant. I have been asked, in America, whether English was my first language or had I had to learn it, whether I knew a person the questioner had met last year who lived in Inverness, and (so help me, really) whether the Castle was real or did we just put it up each year as a backdrop for the Tattoo! Very probably the writer thought Welsh and Gaelic were the same language.

Finally, to Sharon Lamb - as you will notice, I haven't used the S word once in this letter.

### Lee Sansome - Tamworth

Re hurt/comfort and maternal instinct - no, no and thrice no! I'm the mother of two small children and I recognise a maternal instinct when I feel one (ok, some days I use it all up by 9 am but I do have it!) And I can say quite categorically that what I feel for Kirk (or Spock, for that matter) is most definitely not maternal!

Surely the point of the H/C situation was that, in having one of the two ministering to the other's hurt or worrying over his well-being, we were able to see more of the tender feelings of love and compassion that Kirk and Spock had for one another which, in a less stressful situation, would have been inappropriate for them to express? It was an example of extremis bringing hidden feelings to the fore, just as the 'now we are about to die, there's something you ought to know....' scenario does.

Hurt/comfort fan fiction, in any case, merely continues a tradition begun by aired Trek. Think of Operation Annihilate!, Journey to Babel and The Empath to name but three examples. Remember Gem's reaction when she observes Spock looking down at the unconscious Kirk? And Spock's expression when he sees that she is watching, feeling what he is feeling? A priceless example of H/C 'in embryo'!

And to those of you out there who are thinking 'This is tosh, Kirk and Spock don't feel like that about one another', I would quote the man who invented them. Gene Roddenberry, in an interview for *Shatner: Where no Man*:

"Narrative...touching on the Kirk-Spock relationship, and Nimoy's feeling that Kirk was essential to Spock's life.

**Interviewer:** I know you've told us you designed that relationship as 'two halves which come together to make a whole'. Is that how you still see it?

**Gene:** Oh, yes. As I've said, I definitely designed it as a love relationship. I think that's what we're all about - love, the effort to reach out to each other. I think that's a lovely thing. Also, dramatically, I designed Kirk and Spock to complete each other... But in terms of characters, yes. That closeness. Absolutely."

To Rebekah Owens - You misunderstood me if you thought I intended to 'lecture' everyone. My criticisms were levelled solely at the (as you say) small minority who behaved so appallingly. But to say these people merely 'aired their grievances in a more forceful manner' is something of an understatement; you need only to read Jean Barron's account of what happened to see that.

Has anyone else noticed just how many Trek conventions are taking place in the UK next year and am I the only one worried by it? I don't imagine I'm alone in being unable to afford to attend them all, and therefore in having to make a choice between them. The question is, on what criteria should I (or anyone) be making this choice?

I originally 'discovered' fandom in 1980 when the Business Meeting system was just being established. This had been devised in an attempt to keep big cons from being held too close together. Of course there was - and is - no way to enforce such a system - it was only ever a gentleman's agreement between fans. But now we have the case where the majority of next year's con committees are operating outside of the Business Meeting system. Is this fair to those who abided by it, or to convention-goers in general?

Just look at the calendar for next year's larger/more expensive events and you can see the potential for problems:

JAN 29 - 31 STARBASE '93  
12 week interval  
APR 30 - MAY 3 WARP 1 ('official' con)  
10 week interval  
JULY 17 - 19 CONTAGION  
6 week interval  
AUG 27 - 30 HOLODECK ('official' con)  
3 week interval  
SEPT 17 - 19 LIGHTSPEED  
12 day interval  
OCT 1 - 3 MIDCON ANNIV. CON

I'm all for freedom of choice, but isn't that what you get when you place your vote at a business meeting? Does fandom, en masse, want to go back to a free-for-all and be damned who loses out? If so, why not dispose of the Business Meeting system altogether? Looking at next year's calendar, it would seem the May convention is pretty secure but doesn't the future of the August con look a little shaky (and by this I mean all August cons, not Holodeck in particular).

Please believe me when I say I intend no slight on any of the committees mentioned. I am, however, very concerned that without some sort of system of control over major Trek events, we run the risk of descending into chaos and cons will begin to lose money or fold. The nightmare scenario arising from this must surely be the Professional Con Company rising like the phoenix from the ashes of our disorganisation. I have no desire to see the likes of Creation Cons over here. Yes, they get the names, but at the expense of fans who are ripped off in every other way, with events which run only from 10 am to 6 pm for two days and consist entirely of the guest's talks and a professional dealers' room. No, thanks! I'll take the British fan-run con any time - programming problems an' all!

Isn't it time we decided whether we want the protection and voting rights of the Business Meeting system (or its like) or not? And if we do, shouldn't all conventions who are planning to charge over a certain amount in registration be expected/obliged to put in bids under the system? I know some changes

in the rules would be needed, but who says the official cons have to be on the May and August Bank Holidays? Couldn't Contagion, Holodeck and Midcon all, in theory, have put in bids to hold the second official con of '93, but on slightly different dates? Or perhaps, allowing for the increased number of fans attending cons since the system was introduced, we now need three 'official' cons per year on suitably interspersed dates?

I would love to hear the opinions of the various past and present committees and of regular attendees, regarding the 'system' as it now stands. At the very least, they might enable me to choose which cons to register for next year - with a clear conscience!

### Michael Healy - Birkenhead

I've built up a collection of Star Trek video off-air recordings (I can't afford to keep up with the official releases). Does anyone know where I can get hold of video covers? Cyber-mark Services produce an easy to fold cover that fits into a video slip-case for Dr. Who tapes - on the back there is a TARDIS motif for you to write story title, TX date and counter number. Has anything similar been put out for Trek?

### Eddie Yau - Hove, East Sussex

To Tim Knight - Thanks for your comments regarding my "Kirk or Picard" article in N/L 21. Yes, I am slightly biased towards Kirk, but I am willing to listen to any arguments in Picard's defence. When I said Picard was always surrendering, it was meant as tongue-in-cheek more than anything else. However, he does have to consider the safety of the families on board the ship which means that he has a greater chance of surrendering. Your reference to the Borg situation doesn't work in your favour - whether you surrender to them or not, either way you're one dead duck! Picard does chalk one up for the Picard Manoeuvre though. Personally I feel that Picard is one of the best commanders of his time, and Kirk is one of the finest commanders of all time.

As to Worf's dishonour, Picard would definitely have the edge over Kirk. As I said, if any talking was involved I'd vote for Picard first. Your Kirk/Worf scenario is an

impossibility though because of the time frame involved. In the first place, Kirk's hate for Klingons would have to be nonexistent, and that would make him a different man.

To Simon Plumbe - Yes, I do know that the Trek novels aren't regarded as fact, but, in my defence, I have to say that Trek "fact" can be defined in various ways depending on how people see it. I've categorised them as "general fact", "Paramount fact" and "Roddenberry fact".

I class "general fact" as all screened Trek and the movie novels (not any of the other novels). Some fans will regard the movie novels as fact as they help fill in some of the gaps the movies never explain fully. Indeed, the ST:TMP novel is fact as Roddenberry wrote it himself! My "Kirk's Reaction" article used this category as the ST6 novel explains a lot and the parts I use don't conflict with the movie in question, but compliment it, so I can accept it with no major problems. As to the Kirk/Carol-Marcus living together bit - as it was never filmed, can we say it happened?

"Paramount fact" is basically all screened Trek and the ST:TMP novel, though I'm not too sure about the animated series. Most fans, like you, are in this category.

"Roddenberry fact" or 'pure' Trek fact includes the original series, TNG and the first movie only. He never really approved of the other movies because of their "militarization", even though he had a say in them. With respect to Gene, Deep Space 9 won't be in this category as he obviously won't be able to have a say in it. DS9 will be in the Paramount fact/Piller & Berman category.

I suppose I should add a "believe-what-you-want" category for the fans who like to add any other novels to the screened series & movies. Indeed, I know of quite a few fans who don't regard Star Trek 5 as fact as it was, in their opinion, total rubbish!

As to actually liking a few TNG episodes and DS9, well, I never said Trek without Kirk & Co. isn't worth bothering with. I do feel that without them, TNG and

DS9 is just 'normal' space opera, not 'true' Trek. I find that most of the episodes I do enjoy are more akin to the original and movie series. I.e. "Power Play" was a very original series type of plot with - similar to original series episode "The Lights Of Zetar". "The Emissary" was good because of the movie-era Klingons in it. Other very good episodes are "The Hunted", "The High Ground", "Legacy", "Q-Pid" and "The Offspring" etc. I'm open-minded to DS9 as it will be more like the original series with its grittiness (so I've read).

After all that, I have to shoot myself in the leg and say that fans that take Trek too seriously should lighten up a bit! Sure, enjoy it and discuss it etc., but slow down - it's only a TV show! There isn't any real fact anyway as it's all space opera!

### Maggie Symon - Fochabers

To Lloyd Lewis - I agree with you that nothing compares to the feel of a real, old book. How many of us don't have this automatic compulsion to go into any bookshops we pass? I for one would regret losing them for computer discs for relaxation purposes (I am already using them at work). I am sorry the Amiga disc; 'Final Frontier' zine is on disc, even if I had an Amiga, I wouldn't be buying it.

To John Stuble - I agree with Janet Quarton that the novelisations are no more valid than fan theory. One of the biggest disappointments I had was reading TMP before seeing it - the film didn't have bits I enjoyed in the book, (a scene with Scotty, I remember. There is so much I don't agree with in the TUC novel that I had come up with more acceptable (to me) answers myself with friends that I found it easier to forget the novel. (Unfortunately I can't remember all of them and there isn't a copy of TUC in my local video shop yet to remind me - anyone seen one anywhere?) I believe the unfilmed pieces of the script are more 'real' than the novel.

To the Riker v Picard debate team - Personally I don't think I'd ship out with Riker as captain - as Ann Peters says he is not ready and seems to make rash decisions when in charge of the ship. Sara Jackson gave a

case in point. His constant usurping of Picard's authority on the Bridge irates me constantly too (smacks of a control freak to me). Despite Patrick Stewart's justification for Picard's command style at UFP, I think the Captain should be the Captain, not second best to his First Officer when ever he can get a word in edge-ways. Give me Kirk or Picard any day.

I am concerned, though, to read that both major cons in 94 are to be held in London. I wasn't able to get to either Con this year because of work, so I hadn't heard till reading Helen's report on Rec-con. I assume since the Business Meeting over-ran so much that all the old arguments were brought out (size of hotel, facilities, cost etc) but the fact remains I - for one - haven't the time to travel (or the money to fly) the 1266 miles round trip once, far less twice in a year. If this is the new trend we will not only have a ST/TNG divide but the North/South divide we fought so long to prevent.

Can anyone help me? I've turned on twice to MTV lately in the middle of a German video called by the German ST title (sorry I wouldn't even dare try and spell it). It has Movie Klingons and Series Federation flying in an Enterprise made of bottles. What is it all about? It is driving me nuts. I'd guess it is a German equivalent to Star Trekkin'.

To Lesley Hatch - The Sound Fx were nearly all done by Glen Glenn Sound in all those other series the 'ST' sound appears in from what I have seen.

For anyone interested while I was watching Corbomite Maneuvre I distinctly saw two lift doors (one grey and one red) go back the first time Kirk entered the Bridge.

And the solution to the puzzler of the phasers in the Galley was in Corbomite Maneuver... they need them to do what Janice did when the power is out - phaser hot coffee! Maybe you can set the phaser to multiple settings: simmer, boil, toast, roast etc...

Margaret Richardson - Newcastle (currently studying in Iowa City)

After reading the comments on the Sol

III Convention in the latest edition of the IDIC newsletter (N/L 24) I was quite appalled to learn that there had been a near riot over the showing of Next Generation episodes. I was even further appalled to learn that someone had threatened violence on the poor steward on the door. I don't know how other people feel about this, but I am shocked and disgusted that such a thing could occur at a Star Trek convention. I personally find this behaviour unacceptable, unnecessary and definitely not wanted. I hope the person or persons responsible have taken stock of their actions and have come to realize that it was very stupid, selfish and irresponsible behaviour. The very basic principles taught to us by Star Trek are tolerance, patience and understanding. That is the very basis of this fan club's name. If you don't recognise that, then you are sadly missing the point and missing out on what it means to be a Star Trek follower. I know this sounds very much like preaching, but most fans have respect for one another, even if they don't think the same way, or feel the same way about the two series. We have enough violence in the world to last us a life time, we don't need it seeping into our conventions. That is the reason I felt compelled to write this.

Another point that I want to make, is the fact that if people are afraid that they are going to be threatened by con attendees, then they are not likely to want to volunteer for stewarding duties at cons. If this happens, then cons just won't be able to function adequately. The simple fact is that we need stewards, we need them to keep conventions going and running as smoothly as possible. The stewards are the backbone of any convention. No matter how well or badly a con is organised, the events simple won't happen without the help from people who volunteer to be stewards. They are the ones who run the videos, the sales rooms, the art shows, the fancy dress, the games rooms and every other event that takes place. These people give up their own time and get nothing in return, except the pleasure of knowing that they have contributed to the running of a convention. I know, I have been a steward many times and have also been a con organiser three times. I am not undermining convention committees, because

they work very hard to make the events happen and to keep things going, but the stewards are very important in making sure the committee's hard work has not been a waste of time. I hope the people responsible for the trouble at Sol III read this and I hope they have learnt by their mistakes; if not, then we don't need you or want you at our conventions.

I would also like to say that I would not like to see Classic Trek and Next Gen conventions run separately. I would hate the idea. I love both Classic and Next Gen and want to attend conventions where I can enjoy both. We don't need any more segregation in this world, we have enough of that already. All we need is a bit of tolerance on both sides. I know some people only love Classic Trek and some people only love Next Gen. Let us accept that we are all different and we all have something important to offer fandom. Let's not miss the opportunity to share our differences together. We will be missing something very important by separating Classic Trek and Next Gen. We can't afford to let that happen.

Lastly I would like to say that I attended the Sol III convention in May and had the very best of times. I can't thank the committee enough for making my weekend wonderful. Thanks Jean, Heather, Carol, Mark and everyone who contributed to the running of the con. Can't wait for the next one.

### **Stephen Shaw - Stockport, Cheshire**

The last Classic Trek, Turnabout Intruder, was inspired by a Thorne Smith book, Intruder, which was made many years ago into a movie, shown this summer on TV. For reasons best known to Hollywood, although the actors displayed the situation of a husband and wife swopping personalities very adequately, they were also made to change voices, which I found spoiled it. At least Kirk did not have to put up with that.

Nice of the BBC to show The Invaders from the middle of the second season... several Star Trek guests can be seen, notably Susan Oliver in several episodes.

I managed to catch Woolworth's special promotion of Star Trek videos at £5.99, and was surprised to see even the latest Season 5 tapes in there. I did even better at a video clearance by W.H. Smith, with an animated video for just £2.99.

Nice to see Miri on TV again. I have texts which suggest that the children of Roddenberry, Shatner and Whitney appeared in this, uncredited with Shatner holding his daughter towards the end). Any more crew children? Why did the crew ALL leave their communicators on the bench to be stolen? What happened to the security men about half way through - they just weren't there any more! And this early on, we were unable to scan the planet for life forms... and not able to use the transporter either for decontamination or repair (odd how script fixes inserted into later episodes screwed up the earlier ones... and some of the later ones too...)

Agree with Baerbel Schmidt re the Trill. A symbiotic relationship is one which is actually beneficial, and with either interpretation (scripted but unshot, or worse, as shown) the host is not shown to benefit (this is generally taken to mean an improved lifespan/improved preservation of gene bank). This looks like a typical PARASITE infection... and one which DAMAGES the host by suppressing the host personality (permanently...) It IS a challenging concept, no doubt about it, but has it been thought out properly per Star Trek concepts? The permanent removal of the host personality is not slavery. It is murder.

To Marion Pritchard - Boys have been given a lower entry point to secondary schools accepting a tested entry for MANY years, on a basis all lady readers will readily agree with: males mature later (who said "if ever?") At age 10/12 boys will as a group test lower than females, but in only a few short years this situation rights itself. If entry at the lower age was on strict results, this would result in more girls than boys being entered, but worse, would mean that boys having a greater POTENTIAL than some girl entrants would be declined. It IS positive discrimination, on pretty strong statistical and

theoretical grounds. It also opens up a possibility for asserting other forms of positive discrimination, if there are any other differences (other than male/female) which could hide potential quality.

Re suggestion by Michael Mazza - He's right you know, there is a discrepancy between the cost of 100 page IDIC and the cost of fan-fiction, even the quite reasonably priced ScoTpress titles... we won't mention the American ones!

ScoTpress now has quite a collection of titles, by no means all in print. Over fandom as a whole there are lots of really GOOD stories which are not seeing the exposure that they should. So... How about a subscription series or two? Not really possible for "all new" stories, as you never know how those will come in, but a reprint series (with maybe an odd new one), with a bimonthly issue, on a subscription basis - say ten pounds for six issues totalling at least 500 pages? It could generate some completely new income, with the subscription base cutting down on stock holding (expensive!) and ensuring some old classics were once more seen. Maybe more than one series if you need to cater for classic/TNG/hc etc. Worth a thought? Other fan publishers could surely agree reprint rights?

*[Janet: The main difference between the price of the newsletter and the zines is the difference between printing 900 A5 newsletters and 200 A4 zines. The more you print the cheaper it is. Also the production costs of zines are more expensive as - for example - stories have to be edited and sent back and forth in the post, and writers, artists and typists - and the British Library, which gets 5 of every title - receive contributor's copies. Plus only just over half the zines sell quickly, the others being held in stock for two or more years.*

Your idea of a reprint zine on subscription is an interesting one but I can't see it working for various reasons. Most zine readers prefer the A4 format as they are easier to read and store. The market for zines has shrunk this last few years, probably because there is so much other ST merchandise available. Also for new zine readers there is a fairly large market of second hand zines which are usually much cheaper than new ones. The

stories you say are not getting exposure are often available on the second hand market whereas there are fewer and fewer new zines being published worldwide.

The copyright for most fan fiction remains with the writer and whereas the publisher can always reprint copies of the original zine, if they want to compile a new reprint zine they would have to first get permission from all the writers - many of whom are no longer in fandom.

We hope to continue to publish zines as long as there is a viable market for them as we want to give writers the opportunity to get their stories into print and to share them with other fans. We, ourselves, still prefer fan fiction to professional novels. However, I just can't see it being possible to publish cheap reprint zines of the type you request. There is just too much available on the second-hand market.]

### **Neil J Barrett - Preston**

To Sheila Clark - Fish. Everybody knows that one by now. What English word changes its pronunciation when you capitalise it?

To Karen Sparks - You're quite right about being able to tell when a story is set by the behaviour of characters but that assumes that the writer has got it right. There are quite a few cases in my collection of ST novels where I see slightly incongruous behaviour. Novels which are set in the period between ST:TMP and STII:TWoK acknowledge the development of Spock's character through his experiences on Gol and with V'ger yet still portray the junior characters (particularly Chekov) as innocent youngsters. TNG novels are less likely to suffer from this problem since they tend to be set in whichever season was running at the time of writing.

To Lloyd Lewis and Gaile Wood - As far as I can judge it was John M Ford who decided that Classic and Film era Klingons had relatively short lifespans. They appear to be physically mature at 8 to 10, cadets at 12 and venerable if they reach 50 or 55. The childhood of a Klingon thus occupies roughly the same proportion of the total life as that of a Human. Certainly the Hobbsian nature of

Klingon culture (advancement by assassination, frequent duels) will reduce the likelihood of reaching advanced age. However, I suspect there may well be a physiological reason such as the Klingon metabolism running at a much faster rate than Human. This could well account for the faster aging and may also be the reason for some aspects of their culture. Revenge and/or retribution must be exacted immediately since if you wait too long your enemy will have moved on to an unassailable position or simply died of old age. I don't know if TNG Klingons have changed or if being of the Imperial race is significant. I have seen a timeline which suggests that Worf is 26 in TNG Season 1 which would make him middle-aged but he doesn't look it does he?

To Jon Vernon - I originally thought that Picard was a French-speaking Swiss because of his tendency to remain neutral and talk all the time. He does seem to be becoming more and more stage-English. Notice that he drinks his tea black and has to specify that it should be hot (as opposed to iced tea - an American idea) thus leading to the phrase often quoted at cons 'Tea, Tetleys, Tepid'. I would expect that by the 24th century we will all have moved towards an average mid-Atlantic accent/manner/viewpoint etc. I have seen references to Robert April being English (specifically a native of Coventry) but I don't know what accent he had in 'The Counter-Clock Incident'. Can somebody enlighten me?

To Janet Quarton - The big problem I'm having with Season 1 of Classic Trek is I've got so used to the James Blish adaptations that 'the real thing' seems wrong! In the Blish version of 'Man Trap', Spock dashes in and shoots the creature just as it grabs Kirk. Also, the written version makes the shapechanging ability less obvious at first and adds to the mystery. With 'Charlie X' the problem is that Janice Rand reappears but not Sam Ellis. I'm having to tell myself that Classic took time to settle down just as TNG did and that my memories are somewhat rose-tinted.

To Helen White - Maybe after your brain transplant you'll change your mind about Saavik. Robin Curtis simply didn't

convince me as a Vulcan let alone a Romulan. She seems to have gone from a very driven, fiercely independent young woman to a giggly schoolgirl. Perhaps this was because her relationship with David Marcus was the first romance of her life but I doubt that the death of her mentor could have so easily been tossed aside. I would like to see Saavik after her sojourn on Vulcan when she would perhaps have come to terms with her duality and become a fully rounded individual. Read 'The Pandora Principle' by Carolyn Clowes and then ask yourself which actress fits that novel better.

On the subject of mind-wipes/memory tampering etc. I'm very worried about this. In 'Pen Pals' Kate Pulaski reprogrammed the memory of a being from a completely new race. Leaving aside whether this practical or ethical, what about the effect on the legal process? You can never trust anything said by an eye-witness in court since you don't know if their memory of an incident has been edited, added to or even created by some third party. It has been suggested that using the Vulcan mind-meld to block out memories (as in Requiem for Methuselah) is not 100% reliable - read 'Strangers from the Sky' by Margaret Wander Bonnano - but other techniques could easily supplement it.

To all the fans of hurt/comfort stories I have two questions. How do you feel about the novels of Sondra Marshak and Myrna Culbreath which, to me, seem to place Kirk in the psychological equivalent of a h/c situation? What about L A Graf's novels with their tendency to inflict major injuries on Chekov?

#### Matthew Conway - Bristol

To Paul Hulford - Time travelling to an alternate universe may have no effect on your own, but if you decide to stay in that alternate universe then it is possible to change history from a subjective point of view. For example, preventing the assassination of JFK in universe 2 will not stop him dying in universe 1, but if I stay in universe 2 having carried out my meddling, then, as far as I am concerned, history will have been changed.

To Eddie Yau - It seems to me that

Picard did actually win the battle at the end of Yesterday's Enterprise, for the simple fact that Enterprise-D bought enough time for Enterprise-C to return through the temporal rift and restore history to its (almost) normal course. The fact that he didn't manage to overcome four Klingon battle cruisers is beside the point, because that wasn't what he was trying to do. After all, if Enterprise-D had destroyed its opponents but at the cost of seeing Enterprise-C similarly destroyed, the victory would have been somewhat Pyrrhic, to say the least.

To pretty much everyone - With regard to the ongoing debate over videos at conventions, I spent most of Conduit (my first convention last year) catching up on the fourth and fifth season episodes that I hadn't yet seen, and given that few fans get the opportunity to see copies at private showings, I can hardly blame those who make this their priority. However, while I managed to see both parts of Time's Arrow (an excellent two-parter) as well as Realm of Fear (not bad) at CONfederation in October, the fact that there were fewer new episodes available allowed me to spend the vast majority of my time elsewhere, be it entering the trivia quiz (Worf's Formation Ballet Troupe proving unbeatable) or engaging in late-night harassing of the appalling DJ. I'm afraid convention old-timers will probably just have to accept that the demand for new Star Trek is an irresistible force and that hopefully newer fans will eventually learn, as did I, that there 's a whole lot more going on outside the video room than at first meets the eye.

**SPOILER ALERT** - the next paragraph gives details of 5th season episodes.

To Russell Witheyman - Your comments about the fifth season of ST:TNG are spot on: Alexander's problems at school are fine as a plot device but begin to pale after about the third episode. I'd also agree with most of your episode selection, except for Cause and Effect and I, Borg. Hype or not, the former must be the most dramatic episode of all time, if only because you don't see the Enterprise destroyed four times in forty-five minutes every day of the week. As for the

latter, it was a good episode but also an unfortunate one in that the Borg have been, to an extent, recast as just another hostile alien race, much as happened to the Ferengi. It's hard to see them in the same light after watching I, Borg as after The Best of Both Worlds, and while the crew's empathy with Hugh is certainly ST:TNG at its moralising best, it also removes the dramatic edge from a race who will never be quite the same implacable threat again.

### **Lynne Buckley - Loughborough**

To Helen White - I loved your convention reports in N/L 24. They were an ideal tonic for me, after I'd taken my exams that day. Keep up the good work!

On the topic of conventions, I recently attended Midcon, which I enjoyed very much. However, I was surprised by the lack of tolerance of some of the attendees, who were grumbling because there were two video rooms in operation and they kept having to change rooms to see TNG videos.

I think we're lucky to have fans who are willing to organise conventions. Why don't people stop grumbling and appreciate what is offered? After all, if you can do any better, offer your services!

### **Pam Baddeley - Farnborough**

I was shocked to read that there had been a near riot at SOL III but it explains a few things. I was having dinner in the restaurant that night when there was a commotion at a nearby table with terse conversations on walkie talkies, and then a number of people left. They must have been stewards being called in as reinforcements. By the time my room mate and I strolled back to see the fancy dress party, we found Darmok showing in the hall and were a bit disgruntled that there had been no announcement, wondering what else we had missed. Anyway, we were pleased to see some episodes since we'd been pretty unsuccessful in getting into the video room. This explains some rather uncharitable and, I'd thought till now, motiveless remarks made about TNG video watchers, but people should accept that most of us grumbled a bit but didn't abuse anyone let alone cause a riot

I'd like to assure Kay Stagg and other Classic fans that I do *not* think the Classic room should be handed over to TNG. This is showing my age, but I've been Classic fan for 23 years. I couldn't understand why the SOL III Classic room was closed for even longer periods than the TNG one. If anything *has* to be taken off the programme, surely the general SF videos should go (at SOL III they were running in a third room). SOL III was the first con I'd been to since around 1981 and I was disappointed that a lot of the 'live' elements had gone - the 'fashion shows' I remember were superb. Since the live programme at SOL III was fairly lacklustre, it's not surprising that TNG loomed in even greater importance for a lot of people, but a shame some apparently got carried away. Certainly I spent a lot of time in queues, but did not witness any abuse or bad behaviour.

To Taruka Queuhtezcatl - You're referring to the time dilation effect predicted in Einstein's theory of relativity. As a spaceship approaches light speed, its mass becomes infinite and time more or less grinds to a halt as far as someone on the ship is concerned. However, an observer outside has a different experience. Watches worn by the two different observers would be out of step. The greater the speed of the ship, the greater the time differential so that, if the ship returned home, the crew would find that centuries, even millennia, had gone by while they had aged by only months or a few years - and would probably crack up due to the trauma. (We get round this in SF, like ST, by just ignoring it - the five-year mission is 5 years for those back on Earth as well as on the Enterprise!)

Re viruses - They need a host cell in which to reproduce, which they do by implanting themselves in the cell's RNA (ribonucleic acid) - which normally manufactures the substances needed by the body for its continued growth and maintenance - and forcing it to produce virus instead. Viruses have managed to survive in dormant form outside a host by creating a tough outer 'shell' which they discard when they enter a host. This could be likened to the hibernation which some amphibians and mammals adopt to survive harsh conditions -

drought, extreme cold - and no-one would say they were not alive while in this state.

Anyway, back to ST! Unlike some members I must say I've noticed quite a picture degradation in the video versions of Classic ST the BBC are showing. The picture is fuzzy and the colours are harsh and garish - I went back to some of my old tapes, recorded when it was on some years back, and there really is a difference. It's a real shame they couldn't have bought film copies again.

### Colin Mackay - Edinburgh

To Gaile Wood - Your comments on IDIC disrupting your day sound very familiar.

However, this month was a more serious disruption than normal as I am very much into computers as well - and I received an upgrade to the programming language I use for my computer. Its installation program was started with a little animation that looked remarkably like the Klingon moon Praxis exploding.

### Alberto Gorin - Arnhem, Holland

To Anne Peters - I think that girls are smarter, better, strong sex; better to be safe at their side! But we are all Human, we make our own faults.

What I miss in science fiction is what we have today - computers, go to the moon, or simply our LCD watches. I love Star Trek because it's exciting but not scary, it's not violent, it's a good act on a stage.

The crew find other life forms, but it's right on Earth; I had aliens out of space in my room. They were invisible but I felt they studied me. Their ship came so low I felt the heat of the engines. What I am trying to say is, what you see in science fiction movies and Star Trek is right here. And it's nice to talk and write about the future.

Things I'd like to see - I'd like to see more about other planets, the city, the houses, the people, more of aliens and ships and inside the Enterprise - where everybody eats and sleeps. Now we see the bridge, transporter room, transporting to other

planets where you see a little of the planet. I would like to have things like Battlestar Galactica, with robots, shuttles flying like Star Wars and a larger scale of galaxies. What we see is one side - I'd like to see more of the aliens' ship. Mix all the movies (Battlestar Galactica, Star Wars, even Air Wolf), stick with Star Trek rules, and you get a GREAT movie.

Female heroes? Yeah! Make the girl smart like in real life; girls are smarter, better, stronger - not pure violent (like leather weapons) - but some female can get the shuttle with one half of the engine back to the Enterprise.

Maybe Data could get a new brother - I'm a big fan of Data; I wish I had a friend like him.

I think often, wouldn't it be nice to be in the USS Enterprise, cruising along the galaxy with no-one around you. I look in the air, I look at stars and wonder if the Enterprise could pick me up and I would forget all my problems as I cruise along the galaxy.

We all wonder how heaven looks - I think it's like Earth, with cars, plains, people... but what would the staff of Star Trek see? Maybe heaven as another planet.

### **Marysia Kolodziej - Troon**

Greetings to all Klingon warriors and the scum of all other less honourable species. To anyone who wants to now, I love the new layout.

Does anyone out there have either the Silvercon or Contagion videos that I could borrow, seeing as I'm too broke to buy copies? Also, does anyone know what's going on with Trident comics Star Trek series? They keep sending me these letters saying things like 'liquidation' and 'take-over' and 'laid-off' etc, but I'm still getting my comics! I can't get a straight answer out of them - at least, not one you could understand without a business degree.

To Sheila Clark - Starfleet HQ has to be somewhere - if not Earth then another planet,

which would favour whoever lived on that planet.

To everyone - re people thinking Trekkies are weird. I mentioned on a job application that I was a member of IDIC and KAG and was a Star Trek fan, and I still got the job! Perhaps I'm the token Trekkie on the workforce.

To Kay Stagg - at Contagion and Silvercon the Classic Trek room was small (about 20 seats) and used a normal TV and video. As a result people were a lot more comfortable and it was not echoing empty.

To Russell Witheyman - I have to disagree about the quality of 5th season episodes. If it was not for episodes such as New Ground, Hero Worship and Cost of Living we would not know nearly as much about the characters as we do. If it wasn't for these episodes and others like them ST would become far too action-orientated; we would barely get to see characters like Alexander, Lal and all the other children, civilians, etc, on the Enterprise. Besides, Hollow Pursuits was a mostly non-action episode - would you relegate those wonderful holodeck scenes to the dumper?

To Lloyd Lewis - As far as I know, marriage in the 24th century can take many different forms. It is up to the individuals concerned which form they want their 'marriage' to take. A contract once entered into is as binding as our marriage vows (I think) and can take the form of anything from a formal marriage such as we know to a year's contract with no binding commitment after that year. As far as I know, group marriages are legal.

To anyone - re Jonathan Frakes' acting abilities. I think that one of the reasons Jonathan Frakes does not stand out as a very good actor is because his part is not as easy to play as Worf's or Picard's. They have more guidelines to their roles. Also Worf and Picard have more background to work with - all Riker has is a relationship with Deanna and, introduced later, problems with his father. Not really a lot to work with. I would like to make it clear that I am not casting any

aspersions on either Patrick Stewarts or Michael Dorn's acting abilities.

To Matthew Conway - it was a joke - ha, ha? Colin Mackay got it.

To Taruka Queuhtezcatl - although all electromagnetic waves travel at light speed through a vacuum, they travel much slower through matter. Re the crystalline entity - perhaps it can change shape.

To Paul Hulford - Just because an alternative universe is separate but similar to our own does not mean it can be used for entertainment or experimentation. It would be a real world populated by real people. How would you like it if someone from an alternate universe popped into ours and decided to kill you just to what would happen if you died in their universe? This may be a rather drastic example, but I trust you get my point.

#### Janet Quarton - Lochgilphead, Argyll

I am really enjoying having the original Star Trek series back on BBC. I already have all the episodes on video but I make a special effort to watch them on Wednesday nights. In fact I'm really rather spoilt at the moment as I have satellite TV and as well as having TNG on twice each weekday night, Sky also has Rescue, hosted by William Shatner, at 18.00.

One of my favourite episodes of ST, The Enemy Within, was on a couple of weeks ago. I always love watch this but I also think the episode is badly edited. In the following explanation I am referring to the 'good' Kirk.

In the episode, after beaming aboard, Kirk goes to his cabin and lies down; later, at McCoy's request, Spock visits Kirk to check on him. Then we see Kirk and Spock enter the transporter room where Scotty shows them the dog-like animal and tells them that after it was beamed aboard the second animal appeared and that it isn't just a duplicate but an opposite. Scotty says they aren't beam Sulu and the landing party aboard - "If this happened to a man." At this Kirk reacts with horror (and I feel, realisation). Then, after Rand is attacked, Spock visits Kirk's cabin and

Kirk tells him he has been resting there since Spock left. They then go to sickbay to see Rand. After the sickbay scene Kirk and Spock are back in the transporter room and Kirk is holding the animal. At this point Kirk knows he has a duplicate.

The order of these events has always bothered me - they don't seem right. I think that things would make more sense if the scene in the transporter room was one complete scene placed after the scene in sickbay where Kirk is accused of attacking Rand. This would make the sequence of events - Kirk goes to his cabin to rest, Spock comes to check on him, Rand is attacked, Spock goes back to Kirk's cabin where Kirk tells him he has been resting since Spock left. They then go to sickbay to see Rand. Then Scott calls them to the transporter room where he shows them the duplicated animals and explains how one animal is the opposite of the other. Kirk then realises that he has a duplicate - hence the look of horror, and realisation, on his face.

Would anyone else care to give their thoughts on this.

I have been lucky enough to see the TNG episode 'Relics' - the one with Scotty in it - and I loved it. I admit to finding it a bit sad but there are some lovely bits in the episode which you have to be an original Trek fan to appreciate. Personally I think this is a much better episode than Unification - the writer must be a fan of original Trek.

One tip - if you can resist the temptation don't read the novelisation before seeing the episode. The problem with a novelisation is that the writer usually expands the story with their own ideas and if you read it first you may be disappointed when all the scenes you like don't appear in the episode or film. I still haven't had time to read Relics but I did glance at it and there was one scene in the holodeck which I just couldn't see how they could do on TV and I was right - they didn't.

#### Kirstie Jordan - Pilsley, nr Chesterfield

To Lisa Dearnley-Davison - Although I am unable to remember the name of the film

You asked about (no doubt the minute that I post this letter the title will come to me!) I do recall the name of a film that was shown a week or so after it which also featured Patrick Stewart. The Doctor and the Devils also featured Timothy Dalton as a doctor who used freshly dead bodies for his experiments.

To Steven Gibb - I see your point about not being able to do much 'Trekking' from a Space Station, but as DS9 will be incorporating a 'safe' wormhole, surely the aliens/races passing through this wormhole will be the ones doing the Trekking, and thus passing on their adventures?

To Eddie Yau - Hi - remember me? You are right in saying (or should that be 'writing?') that Troi is the only one seen on the bridge wearing a low-cut dress. However, I'm not at all sure that Picard, Riker or Worf have quite the right build for such an outfit! Seriously, though - but only when I have to be! - I agree that Troi does seem to be becoming more of an excuse for building male audiences than actually counselling anyone.

To Helen White - How do you do it? How do you manage to get to all these cons when I can't even manage one? Not that I am jealous, you understand (mutter, mutter, seethe, seethe), just ever so slightly 'put out'. Still, I must congratulate you on your reports - they make up for my not being able to go. Thanks.

To anyone - I apologise in advance for asking what is probably a very silly question, but what did the cartoon on P 75 of N/L 24 mean? Either I've missed something or it was far too subtle for me! Having said that, I DID understand the cartoon on P 76 - very good!

#### Sue Watkin - Bungay, Suffolk

The convention reports are good - lack of time and money precludes my going to any conventions, but I love to read about what I'm missing! Missing is right - I haven't seen STVI yet, and for both Classic and Next Gen episodes I am dependent on the BBC (Boo, Hiss!). If it wasn't for the newsletter I would know nothing at all, so keep up the brilliant work.

I have particularly enjoyed reading "Make It So" - no. 4 has been my favourite so far, and I would plead with all your writers to keep up the good work, even though they do make my own efforts seem inadequate.

#### Jean Barron - Manor Park, London

I do like the new format - it read far more easily, especially for someone who (like me) tends to read the whole thing in one, or possibly two, sessions. Please keep it.

With reference to my letter in the Postbag N/L 24, there was just one word missing which makes a considerable difference - I know I had it in my draft version but I must have missed it out when I made amendments before sending it, ie

*"However, we now feel that we should correct the false impression that both Helen and Lee (an possibly others) had given, and we apologise if the location of the theme party was inadequately publicised."*

It should have read: "...that both Helen and Lee (and possibly others) had BEEN given, and we apologise..."

It really does sound quite aggressive the way it came out.

#### Liz Butler - Pennywell, Sunderland

I recently purchased "The Host", with, I must admit, mixed feelings, but I must confess I enjoyed it. I would imagine Gates McFadden must have too... being in the arms of three men, including the Captain and First Officer in the space of a 45 minute episode!

Though not generally a great Riker fan, I thought he was wonderful in this episode, and I can understand how Beverly finally succumbed to him in his guise of Odan. Also, this episode, I thought, revealed more of Jean Luc's feelings for Beverly... his reaction to Odan's questions about her... his obvious concern as she fought against her feelings for Riker/Odan... and the depth of his caring as he held her at the end. Am I being overly romantic? Probably, but who cares.

There is one negative aspect (no doubt some will say there were lots of negative

aspects, but what the hell.)

I found it hard to believe that the whole bizarre situation should have such a tidy, unemotional ending. Do people in the 23rd century not suffer trauma, grief, embarrassment? Beverly just seemed to accept the outcome philosophically... an "oh, well, tomorrow is another day" attitude. I mean, she finds out that the "man" she's fallen in love with is a "slug" living inside a humanoid body, that "slug" gets transplanted into Riker with whom she eventually, we assume, spends the night, and to cap it all ends up in the body of a woman! Not exactly your average week in the life of a starship doctor... not to mention being able to look Riker in the eye afterwards, even though he was unaware of what happened whilst he was host to Odan.

But as I said, I did enjoy the episode for all that... especially Riker and Picard. Incidentally, hands up everyone who finds that Jean Luc's voice, especially when he's speaking quietly, gives them goose bumps and makes them go weak at the knees. He could talk to me for hours... about anything! And I love the way he closes his mouth and breathes out through his nose when he's thinking of a reply to something.

#### Gratienne Vandekerkhove - Belgium

To Jennifer Cobbing - After reading my comments in N/L 24 I felt I had to explain something. I don't want you to think that 'and certainly the enjoyment of...' is meant to be taken as an accusation. I expressed my personal opinion, and an idealistic one at that, rather badly. It is one of my faults to speak or write in a general way when I should use the 'I' form. I try to pay attention to it but some things do slip through. If, unintentionally, I've offended you, I sincerely apologise.

#### D Lee - Hounslow

The newsletter was great, as ever, packed full of stuff and worth putting a whole evening by to enjoy... It must be so *much* work... Thank you for doing it.

I found the article about The Most Toys was fascinating, but Liz Caldwell missed out some observations that were (I thought) most

interesting in this episode, namely that Fajo (brilliantly played by Saul Rubinek) most definitely *appears* to have... ahem... designs on Data (and I do not mean as in schematics either). O.K., perhaps I have that over-vivid imagination, but I thought that The Most Toys seemed to be working on more than those levels mentioned by Liz Caldwell.

#### David Raper - Keyingham, N Humberside

As a newcomer to IDIC I'll keep this short, so hello there!

About the bird of prey in ST VI, why make excuses? Could it be that in the pursuit of 23rd century stealth technology, for a moment the Klingons had an advantage? We know from the TNG episode The Emissary that by the 24th century Starfleet could detect the cloaked ships of the previous generation, like the current development of radar for the detection of enemy aircraft and shipping, yesterday's countermeasures do not work against today's systems but in their time they were highly effective indeed, couldn't the same apply to the cloaking technology that made Chang's ship so dangerous? After the events of ST VI I am sure that Starfleet would have to do something to counter that advantage or else risk its entire fleet being all but helpless in the face of the next generation of Klingon and especially Romulan warships - it is only reasonable to assume that *they* would have been very interested in such a ship.

To Eddie Yau - the only thing wrong with the battle in Yesterday's Enterprise was that the Enterprise-D had to sit tight and hold off three Klingon battlecruisers while the Enterprise-C made its run for the Rift. Even so, he did destroy one battlecruiser and damage another, and I'm sure if he had had the freedom to manoeuvre I am sure that he would have given the Klingons plenty of grief. As it was, he did pretty well under adverse conditions and he did succeed in his ultimate objective, ie protecting the Enterprise-C long enough for it to re-enter the Rift and restore history.

As for Riker being prepared to ram a Borg ship with children on board (The Best of Both Worlds part II), what else could he do?

In ST:TMP Kirk was fully prepared to blow up the Enterprise if it would have saved the Earth and would have done so if an alternative had not presented itself. The presence of children might have made him think twice but with such high stakes I doubt if it would have stopped him. If you want to criticise anybody, try Starfleet for putting children on the Enterprise in the first place.

To Neil J Barrett - I think you are right about Uhura's apparent inability to speak Klingon. With the translator there would normally be little need for her to do so. She might be able to read and write it but to speak a language fluently is another matter entirely and it is just as well that the Klingon border guard was probably accustomed to aliens mangling his language and was not too alert in the first place. As for Valeris sabotaging the UT, it was certainly within her abilities.

To Lisa Dearnley-Davison - have you ever seen the film Excalibur? In it, Patrick Stewart plays Queen Guinevere's father quite convincingly, complete with broadsword and armour and also comes to a gory end - if I remember rightly - courtesy of the henchmen of Mordred, his grandson.

To Lloyd Lewis - cats also respond to the sound of the fridge door opening and not just the damn can-opener.

To Peter Arnett - I like the idea of a story depicting the voyages of Robert April or Christopher Pike but as I recall Captain Winter was never Captain of the Enterprise and did not appear in any of the series, live or animated - if anyone knows better, I would be glad to know.

And almost finally, Deep Space 9. Before we condemn, let's give it a try first. There has to be more to Starfleet than just the Enterprise - sacrilege though it may seem - and if worst comes to the worst, DS9 may serve as a useful bridge between this generation and the next, but I hope not! Until we have seen a few episodes, how about a little tolerance or have I mistaken the meaning of 'IDIC' all this time? If it is a turkey it won't last long anyway, so what is there to worry over?

Finally I would just like to say keep up the good work to the committee - and to the rest of you, even if you think you are the only Trekker for fifty miles (as I did) you are not alone.

### Margie Ferguson - South Shields

Thanks for printing my penpal ad. I got about 7 replies. I also got letters from about 12 other potential penpals, from other sources, so I may not be able to reply to everyone. (If I did I mightn't have time to do anything to write about!) So sorry if you wrote and didn't get a reply. Why not put your own ad in?

Silvercon and Contagion are the only Star Trek cons I've been to. It's good to know (judging by IDIC, anyway) that I made a good choice. I wouldn't want to swap the informal atmosphere for a perfectly accurately run convention (is that a contradiction?) any day. Even though my friends and I spent a lot of time going video-dead, as it's our only chance to see TNG now it's off the BBC, we wouldn't be interested in a video-only con. That sounds very boring! I love to meet other fans, listen to guests, etc, as well as watch as many episodes as possible. It wouldn't be a convention without all that.

I like H/C too, and agree with the reasons already put forward. I'd like to add another possibility - maybe it has a bit to do with 'Mary Sue'. Any ST fan with a bit of imagination (ie any ST fan?) when confronted with a long, boring journey, sleepless night, etc, probably indulges in it. Your favourite character is in trouble and *you* are the *only* person who can help or understands. So when you sort them out they are eternally grateful and you both live happily ever after. It's not the hurting you enjoy, it's being able to make them happy again. If you enjoy doing that then you probably enjoy reading other's stories. It could be useful inspiration for the next overnight journey! And after all, it's only fiction, like Casualty - I love watching that. A multiple pile-up on that show can be very exciting, but the same thing on the news is definitely not, even though they might look exactly the same.

I am, whenever possible, a full-time

warrior, ie, I travel to most away games to support my favourite hockey team. There's usually 30 - 40 of us who regularly out-shout home crowds of 2000+. When a previously silent home crowd eventually join in with a chant of their own, we reply, "It's life, Jim, but not as we know it..." etc. I was surprised at the reaction of my hockey friends when I mentioned a ST con over the summer. Some take the piss, naturally, but a canny few watch Trek themselves. But then hockey fans are like Trek fans in that they are mostly very friendly towards fellow fans whether they know them or not.

To Lloyd Lewis - thank Gretzky I'm not the only one who can accept Yesterday's Enterprise and the story of Tasha and Sela! I'm not going to claim the story line is perfection itself - I'm not daft - but all this stuff about Tasha Yar disappearing? That's even more way out!

To Neil Barrett - why do you imply jeans are impractical? They began life as work clothes. Most who wear them find them comfortable, cheap (if you want them to be), warm, tough and with plenty pockets. I'd say your basic pair of jeans are very practical.

#### **Michael Sadler - South Wirral**

I also agree with Jon Vernon and Janet about the Enterprise no longer being a character. The ship has indeed lost something, but perhaps this is intentional. After all, the ship made the ultimate sacrifice to save the crew in ST III; and the 'death' of the ship was a moving moment.

The only way to give the new Enterprise more life is to have sweeping shots of the ship as in ST:TMP when Kirk was going back on board. O.K., this might have been boring to some people but it showed the grace and beauty of the ship.

#### **Denise Colucci - Alconbury, Cambs.**

I have been watching the original Trek episodes on BBC and I have been extremely pleased - and proud - to see how good they still look. I like the Next Gen, but it can't compare to the original. I do chuckle occasionally, though, at Spock's emotional command orders, but these are early days.

I am renewing my appreciation of very fine acting from all concerned, but I admit Leonard Nimoy is my favourite. It would be wonderful if there truly was to be a ST VII and he directed it.

#### **Barry O'Doherty - Maghera, Derry, Ireland**

To Michael Sadler - In Samaritan Snare, Wesley not only announces that they are leaving in Shuttle No. 2 when they are actually in the Sakharov (Shuttle No. 1) but he also announces their departure from Shuttlebay 2 as opposed to Shuttlebay 3 (as indicated on the floor)...! But in his defence, let me just say that it is rare for Wesley to make such a slip-up and he does tend to get all the important things right, not to mention saving the day once in a while.

To Neil J Barrett - Even if Lt. Commander Troi was not a permanent bridge officer, it was Lt. O'Brien's prerogative to assume command or let Troi assume command (since he was the ranking line officer). To get to become even a staff Lt. Commander, I would assume you get at least some command training. Also just because someone does not wear a standard uniform does not mean that they do not possess a rank!

To Taruka Queuhtezcatl - You are quite correct when you state that Einstein's Theories of Relativity predict time dilation and this effect has been experimentally proven to happen. But strange things happen when you substitute an imaginary mass (as opposed to a real mass) into the equations; you find that it is impossible to travel at less than the speed of light. (For those who don't know - an imaginary number is the square root of a negative number).

The existence of natural particles called tachyons is at present hypothesised. If these do not violate entropy, then we could hopefully utilise them to send messages which could reach over large distances very quickly, perhaps virtually instantaneously (hands up all those who think this is starting to sound like subspace communications).

We might even be able to harness a related field to make space-going vessels

travel at/faster than the speed of light (warp drive?). Also, if you take the universe as 5 dimensional (rather than 4) Einstein's equations get very interesting indeed; and I haven't even mentioned Quantum Theory...

In the episode Sarek, the first selection played at the Mozart concert is the String Quartet No. 19 in C Major, also known as The Dissonant. The second is actually by Brahms, the andante moderato movement from his Sextet No 1 in B Flat Major. Sorry, but The Minstrel Boy is an Irish song, written by Thomas Moore.

By the way, did anyone know that the literal meaning of Brínglói (Up the Long Ladder), spelled 'Bríonglói' in Irish - is 'Dreams'.

TRE (Irish TV), currently showing season 4 of TNG, have changed from Saturday to Wednesday at about 7.05 pm.

#### Lesley Hatch - Warley, W. Mids

To Sheila Clark - Ghoti equals fish; and no, I didn't know already, it just so happened there was an article in the Guardian which included the explanation behind Shaw's reasoning on the matter.

To Russell Witheyman - I would agree with your choice of favourite 5th season episodes, with I, Borg coming out on top for me, for its ending as well as its basic idea.

To Elena Bond - Yes, we are always being told that Data is fully functional; if memory serves, he told Tasha that he was in The Naked Now and it is to be assumed she discovered this for herself, despite her later comment that 'it' never happened. Without going into the realms of speculation that have no place in a family newsletter, the 'it' could have been anything.

To Mary Phillips - As far as I recall, FSNP stands for Famous Spock Neck Pinch, a title coined by William Shatner. As for why anyone names their cats, I rather think we do it for your own benefit/satisfaction; Pixiewinkle, a cat who belonged to some old friends of ours but decided to move in with us, would very rarely answer to her name,

but can-openers, plates being moved, paper rustling, scissors, knives... all these were another matter.

To Richard Drinkwater - I take your point about The Perfect Mate and Elaan of Troyius, though I think the former would be infinitely preferable as a wife. Unless of course you like a little spice in your life!

To Gloria Fry - I can honestly say that I don't respond to Kirk or Spock in a maternal way. Kirk I can take or leave, but when it comes to Spock, it's plain lust with me.

Finally, does anyone out there know anything about Novacon, ie is it actually taking place? A friend and I were planning to go, and I wrote to the organisers asking for details, but never received a reply from them.

#### Edward Woo - River Mersey City

Jean Sloan was at Rec-con in August and noticed the following trend. There were a lot of first time attendees and many were introduced to ST by watching TNG. Apart from catching up with TNG episodes, the Classic Trek video room was full to capacity. This is a bit unusual of late. Jean said these new fans wanted to see as many of the OT episodes as possible, having never seen them. This is a good sign for all of us who started with the originals. Will this also happen with DS9? Anyone care to comment?

To Sara Jackson - You are quite correct, Commander Sisko should have a daughter, not a son. It would make the stories far more interesting bringing up a daughter. At least we have a strong female role in Kira Nerys, Sisko's Bajoran First Officer.

To Dawn Tittley - I believe the UK Star Wars fan club has been closed for some time. There is a George Lucas fan club in the USA, dealing with all his films, but I don't know the address.

To Russell Witheyman - The 5th season was family orientated but it was able to develop many of the characters. The Enterprise is an explorer and does have families and so the stories must reflect that. I do agree I'd like to see a return to SF stories in

season 6, but it must balance. I agreed with your comments on episodes except I thought Cause and Effect, Inner Light and Perfect Mate were excellent. The more I watch the latter two, the better they seem, because Patrick Stewart did some of his best work here.

To Baerbel Schmidt & Colin Mackay - If Patrick Stewart does leave after season 6, it's a great loss, but TNG can continue. He could pop in as Admiral Picard now and then. I agree, Colin, Riker will get the captaincy with Data as Number One. I believe the relationship between Riker and Troi could change because of it. It would also bring Data towards the Captain's chair and whether Starfleet would recommend Data for the big chair on another ship? If Shelby does come back as First Officer, she and Ro would have a love-hate relationship with Riker. This could cause quite a few dramatic problems for them all.

To Stephen Shaw - Yes, the BBC charter is coming under review. They don't pay attention to the licence payers or viewers or even their employees. You may have noticed that at least three of the top BBC 2 programmes are SF/cult programmes. The BBC have never liked SF - look at the way they treat Blake's Seven and Dr. Who.

To Neil Barrett- Your comment about Disaster, and who should be in command, has cropped up before. In The Deadly Years, the majority of the senior staff were incapacitated. Commodore Stocker assumed command even though he was a 'pen pusher', whilst Sulu was the line officer on the bridge. Perhaps Starfleet should clarify the situation, even though such situations are rare.

To Steven Gibb - The Tachyon field was extremely large and going around it would have taken time. As time was short (because the Duras Faction was only hours away from defeat) speed was essential.

To Jean Barron - I was at SOL III '92 and I was only aware of the TNG video disturbance after the con had finished. If at future cons the TNG and DS9 video rooms are too small to cater for everyone, and the

main hall is unavailable, how about the UFP '91 idea? Basically, attendees would have to queue to watch the videos. Once an episode had finished, the room would be emptied so other attendees could get to watch an episode. Even though attendees didn't like it they accepted it and there was no trouble - it's something to consider as the size of cons gets bigger.

### Guy Wigmore - Southport

I'm glad I got a response to my letter in N/L 22, though a little more reasoned argument might have been good too.

I never suggested Patrick Stewart should try to act like Michael Dorn's Worf (although I don't think of Worf as a musclebound fighter). Neither did I criticise Stewart's ability to act - just his lack of motivation. What good is the odd flash of brilliance in an episode like Family when he has stopped bothering with the lesser scripts that make up the bulk of a season? He used to work at them in the early years of TNG.

Perhaps subconsciously Patrick Stewart is sabotaging his role by playing Picard as a tired man in need of a career change - the intergalactic equivalent of George Bush. (I do *not* see William Riker as Dan Quayle!)

### Paul Hulford - Camberley

To Lloyd Lewis - re Spock's katra. Would writing it down in the book have been too obvious? In the film, events were happening so quickly that the action and consequences of it were quickly forgotten about. With a book you have the luxury of stopping to consider things whenever you want to. You would therefore have a better chance of grasping the meaning of the transfer, and that would ruin the surprise in the next film.

To Alison Blandford - I spotted Tek Lab by William Shatner languishing on a shelf in Forbidden Planet, London, a couple of months ago. I also noticed that the first two books are out on audio - read by William Shatner.

To Lisa Dearnley-Davison - The film

you are asking about is Lifeorce. It's distributed by The Video Collection, catalogue number VC 3291. Stephen Shaw states that it was based on the book *The Mind Parasites* by Colin Wilson - right author, wrong book. It was based on *The Space Vampires* by Colin Wilson, a title which better resembles the film.

To Chris Bailey - I don't think you're being very fair to CIC video. The price of an average pre-recorded video is £10.99. Several video labels are now charging up to £14.99, so it could be argued that CIC is being very generous by keeping the price down. I'm sure they could increase the price of the ST videos to £14.99 and not lose revenue.

You also complain that video prices keep going up. There has only been one increase in the ST videos - from £9.99 to £10.99 - and that was because of the rise in VAT. It put 21p on a £9.99 video cassette, and the video companies then put an extra 79p on top to cover the extra VAT they had to pay on printing, production and delivery costs among others. Video prices remained at £9.99 for years, and have been at £10.99 for over 18 months. I think that proves that popularity helps keep the prices down. After all, inflation has not been at a standstill.

Having said that, you may be lucky enough not to have to pay £10.99 or even £9.99 for your videos. The Woolworth's near me has been selling ST:TNG tapes up to number 50 for £5.99, and W H Smith has been selling some odd 2nd and 3rd season tapes at £6.99 - talk about spoiling your lunchbreak, my collection was devalued by 40% in the time it took to scream.

What I'm saying is, look around. Many shops cannot find space on their shelves for 50-odd ST:TNG tapes, and are getting rid of the older ones as new ones come in.

There is also a rumour that CIC will soon be releasing the ST tapes for £5.99 in cardboard sleeves. This probably only applies to Classic Trek, but the TNG tapes shouldn't be far behind.

To Eddie Yau - In N/L 24 you state

that Riker and Troi aren't needed in TNG because they are carbon copies of Decker and Ilia. Could you please explain your comments. After all, Decker and Ilia aren't in TNG.

#### Alex Pidd - Selby

Reading between the lines about SOL III I think the problems were due to a lack of foresight and communication. I hope other convention organisers learn from this.

Many people cannot view the latest Trek from the States and attending conventions is not a cheap occupation. Indeed, for some people it's their holiday, to participate in the activities and an opportunity to see any missed episodes. With this in mind, I'm deeply concerned that a member of a convention committee can describe anyone attending as a moron, as Jean Barron has.

As I am considering attending at least one convention next year I hope I can be reassured through these letter pages that this view is not widespread or encouraged. This may be naive but I believe convention organisers have a responsibility to respect everyone who has parted with money to participate in any aspect of the convention they choose. However, I would hate U.K. conventions to stop their charity support and take the commercial exploitation route of U.S. events. *[Janet: I think Jean was only referring to the behavior of the trouble makers. We are not used to can attendees using threatening behaviour to get what they want - respect is a two-way thing.]*

#### Ann Peters - Kidderminster

To Taruka Queuhtezcatl - Electricity travels along a wire because electrons move from atom to atom, whereas in nerve cells, it is the movement of charged chemicals (ions) that cause an electrical signal to be transmitted. Signals travel in a nerve cell at up to 100 m/s while the speed of light is 300 million m/s - some difference, huh! Actually, I'm not convinced that currents travel in a wire at the speed of light anyway. I think it depends on the material of the conductor. I think the material of the wire offers a certain resistance which would probably slow things down a bit, but I'm willing to be contradicted

on this.

And are you saying in N/L 24 that because a virus is a parasite it is not alive? It is certainly a grey area, but I would come down in favour of viruses being alive because their objective is to continue existing at the expense of their immediate environment, the host cell, and that is really what life is all about.

To Steven Gibb - Maybe the tachyon field in Redemption II was meant to form a sphere around the Romulans, but that is certainly not what the special effects showed us. From what we actually saw, I too ask why didn't the Romulans just go round it.

To Janet Quarton - Charlie X may have had a sad ending, but I really like it that way and wouldn't want it changed. Mantrap, however, is a different matter. The writers seem to spend the whole show trying to convince us that killing that poor creature was the right thing to do, and I'm afraid I'm not convinced. Given the salt it so desperately needed, I'm quite sure it would have gone quietly back to its planet and never bothered the Federation again. But no. Kirk had to provoke it and deprive it so it was driven to attack them and then, of course, he had the excuse he wanted to destroy it. So much for IDIC... but not untypical of Human behaviour when dealing with non-Human life forms, I fear.

To Jon Vernon - I think Picard was written as French before Patrick Stewart was cast in the role, so although there were several references to his Frenchness in the first season, it has rather dropped off of late. Interestingly, his French relatives in Family are every bit as English as he is, so maybe the trend for Brits to buy up French houses got a bit out of hand, and by the 24th century they've taken over the whole country.

If there is to be a split in fan conventions, it should not be between TNG and TOS, but between video-watchers and non-video-watchers. If a con committee wishes to avoid such scenes as were reported to have taken place at SOL III, they should either 1) advertise there will be NO TNG

videos so fans don't turn up expecting to be able to see them, or 2) make VERY sure they make adequate provision (enough rooms - large rooms) if they DO advertise them.

It is quite unreasonable to drum up custom by advertising TNG videos, and then to get upset if fans demand to see what they've been promised.

### **Helen White - Bracknell Berks**

Firstly, thanks to everyone who sent in votes for the IDIC logos. Despite the fact that the address on the article was wrong, Mr Postman delivered them all straight to me; I think he's used to all the things I get with Star Trek related writings/stickers on them!

Thanks also to everyone who sent comments saying how much they enjoy my con reports; I love writing them, and it's good to know that people like them.

Talking of con reports, the end paragraph of my Rec-con report (page 55, n/1 24) somehow got added to the end of Stephen Shaw's (page 59) - it's the bit that starts, 'I had a great time...'

To Lloyd Lewis - I too have been critically ill, and I would have much preferred Kate's manner! I find Bev to be hideously patronising as it is, and my way of being scared s\*\*\*less (am I allowed to say that if I put the asterisks in, Janet?) is to become ultra-sensitive to everything and everyone.... Having said that, if we're talking Trek generally rather than just TNG then give me Bones any day.

To Lloyd and Ann Peters - re cats' names: I once read a book ('Benghazi') that suggested that cats already have their own names, and it's up to us Humans to find the right one for the right cat! Mind you, I do find that they always seem to fit their names; and I'm a veterinary nurse, so I've met thousands of the things.... We once had two cats in (one of each sex) called Plug and Socket!

To Lorna Elliott - (re hurt/comfort) If you're a Spock fan, I think that the ultimate in h/c stories is One is One, by Janet Kilbourne.

To Jennifer Cobbing - I love hurt/comfort stories too (see above!) but I'm like Janet Q in that I'm not maternal; I much prefer animals, generally speaking. I tend to talk to (Human) babies as if they're adults, eg "Good morning, small person."

To Kathleen Glancy - I loved the poem! It's a good job that you weren't trying to find a rhyme for my name - I can't think of anything that goes with Helen apart from 'felon' or 'melon'.

To Jeff Martin - (re: con reports) I love doing all that reporting from conventions - obviously! - but I've always felt that the actual con report itself (as opposed to the guest talk reports, which I always keep 'straight') is 'mine'; I happen to like writing in the 'diary' style, so that's how it gets written, and most people seem to like it that way. Also, if I'm preferring someone else's con report I much prefer the 'diary' ones. IDIC again!

To Anne Rogers - Ta ever so for your comments on my con reports - I think I get your meaning! - it's always nice to be appreciated. Now, how do I think up titles? Well, that's a jolly good question.... (she says, buying time) If I'm lucky, someone will make a suitable remark within earshot, out will come my ever-present notebook, et voila. If I'm unlucky, one of two things will happen: a) a title will spring into my mind as I type the report (hooray) or b) it won't (help!) If b) occurs, I go to plan C, which can be summed up thus: what is the most stupid, irrelevant title that I can think of? So far, I've never needed to go beyond plan C....

To Michael Hartley - 47 trillion credits.

P.S. Diet tip: Lose 12lb in only ten days! It's easy - just get gastric 'flu.... (Mind you, it all goes back on again when you start re-eating properly....)

### Gaile Wood - Tamworth

Re N/L 24

To Lloyd Lewis: Okay, so maybe fertile offspring *can* be created using genetic manipulation; I'll buy that. No-one ever said Trek had to have everything verified for biological fact. BUT... (a big but...) I don't

recall K'Ehleyr saying to Worf, "Hang on, love, pop it in a petrie dish and we'll see what we can stir up (I promise I'm *not* making coarse and vulgar puns)." Nor do I recall her giving him pornography to browse through, or there being mention of a large laboratory with scanning electron microscope for said genetic manipulation on the Holodeck. If she could've got in The Family Way so easily, why wasn't she also being socially aware - particularly in these enlightened days, and especially as Trek is supposed to be a reflection of moral issues? Nah! Try and convince me a bit better than that.

To Helen White and Ann Peters: Hmmmm... chests, or the lack of them. Ethics. What a horrid costume they had Michael Dorn in; it looked like he was wearing the 24th Century equivalent to a Bedouin rug (a camel?), or, considering the size of the man, the entire tent? (I love you, Michael, really I do. Honest!)

I'm sorry, Ann, but I think you misconstrued Riker's unusual emotionalism during Ethics. I felt - and I know it's a purely personal interpretation - he was trying to get over to a certain big wassack of a Klingon exactly how selfish he was being, 'cos Worf ain't the sort to listen to sweet reason. Smacking him round the head with a vicious attack of the nature Riker delivered made him hear, but not "I don't think you really ought to do that because we might be upset." And I don't remember Riker doing anything in Silicon Avatar. Come to that, I don't recall *any* of 'em lifting so much as a finger either... (Hey, we'll let *anybody* blast away at an unknown lifeform... Get your phaser and photon torpedoes here!!!)

To Eddie Yau: I don't think you like Troi somehow; I *can't* imagine what gave me the impression you might be biased in favour of Classic Trek either...

I re-read your comments from the earlier N/L's to see if I could suss what you're actually trying to say. Finally, I think I managed it, and I'm afraid I'm going to have to accuse you of thinking with your glands. If Troi was the Security Chief, she'd be wearing something suitable for the position, not the

low-cut frock... Anyway, does a dress actually make any difference to a character's capabilities? It would be a brilliant way of distracting a potential attacker long enough so's she can kick him in the crown jewels. As for equality... Easy. I'm *all* for the men wearing a low-cut frock too; I reckon Data, Riker and others would look... er... *shunning* in matching pink spangled numbers (we're back to chests, girls...!), or why not go the whole hog and put a decollete neck-line on the dress uniforms... *et voila!* They've even got the black tights (panty-hose) to go with 'em! Better than that, let's dispense with clothes altogether (heh, heh). My God, we'll be falling over ourselves to watch TNG (well... I would, oh yes indeed), and just *think* of the sales in Kleenex! All that saliva to mop up...

As for somebody of Troi's size fighting an Arnie... I repeat my earlier charge. Tosh! First of all, she wouldn't be (as this is all hypothetical) in the position of Security Chief unless she was any good, *and* it all depends on who's got the bigger gun (I would've said weapon, but... ). Also, surely, if Troi ever came across someone she couldn't possibly hope to tackle, she'd, a) run like buggery, or b) hit the sod with a brick or something, and *then* run like buggery.

**SPOILER ALERT!** - A few words on a Fifth Season episode... The Next Phase. I liked this story, a lot, really. However... Hands up who spotted the boo-boo? What I want to know is if Geordi and Ro could go through walls, major equipment, people and such, *why* didn't they fall through the floor? Did I miss something? I tried smacking my head against the wall in a vain effort to get the brain cell (singular) to function - to no avail - but came up with a brilliant solution anyway (God, I'm sooo talented...). Everything except their *socks* was phased... (?) But why didn't they notice, and why didn't the Romulan stop at the sock level as he disappeared out into vacuum (do Romulans wear socks)? I mean, if *we'd* been going around in the same clobber for nearly two days, the old bod would have been... er... 'humming' a tad. Somebody *should've* spotted the disembodied socks when they'd taken the boots off to cool their feet, or if they still

couldn't see 'em, they could use smell to track 'em down. Oh, yeah, and did you notice... no Guinan and no Troi.

Anyway, Happy Crimble and a Very Merry (hic!) New Year to one and all.

### Roger Buck - Cambridge

Just a few responses to thoughts raised in previous issues. Concerning criticism about certain fans 'fannishness' about various actors etc., all I can say is that I find it really touching. If Elena Bond gets a great deal of delight out of another human being, eg. Jonathan Frakes and wants to express that ... wonderful. There is so much to appreciate in Human beings and in my opinion much criticism in the world that is entirely unnecessary.

As for myself, while I greatly appreciate some of the Trek actors, the only Human being connected with Trek I came close to feeling fan-atical about was Gene Roddenberry. I am still unable to pay tribute to him or express my sense of loss. Brent Spiner expressed my feelings best when in a recent interview he described Gene Roddenberry as a visionary, implying that such a man is rare, and however intelligent and well-intentioned current Trek creators are, they are not in the same league.

Related to this, I wonder if I'm the only fan who feels TNG is not getting better, but worse. The fourth season is my least favourite of the five, and while I like the fifth a little better, both seasons hold less appeal than the first three. The reason for this is that the show has felt much less Roddenberry-esque of late. It is apparent from the last two seasons that Gene had comparatively little input, while the first season (still my favourite) is supremely Roddenberry's, and his hand can still be felt in many second and third season shows. I know my opinion is out of sync with that held by most, (as it is with ST- TMP - far and away my favourite of the Trek movies) but I find in the shows Roddenberry was most involved with, (as well as his wonderful novelisation of TMP) an approach I find radical, fresh and provocative, particularly in comparison with

recent TNG whose thought I sometimes find rather pedestrian, even corny. -

Still TNG remains Gene's creation, his format, his cast and hopefully guided by his philosophy. I am curious to see what remaining episodes will bring. But while I eagerly anticipated TNG, I feel apathetic about DS9. I completely sympathise with Janet's feeling that however good it is as science fiction, DS9 will not be Star Trek. If after seeing it, Janet and the others felt the new show was not Gene's vision, I would completely support IDIC being devoted to appreciation of Gene Roddenberry's Star Trek. Reports could be given to the future episodes, films and zines concerned with his original creation and casts of characters, but fans could debate DS9 elsewhere. No doubt others will feel very differently.

Well, I began this letter advocating appreciation and ended up fairly critical. TNG remains a beautifully produced show, even if, in my opinion, it now lacks some of the more visionary quality Gene brought to it. There remain certain people connected with it - apart from the wonderful cast - whose efforts I treasure. Chief among these has to be Rene Echeverria, writer of my favourite episode, The Offspring, as well as I, Borg and Transfigurations - which also number amongst my favourites. I really look forward to her further efforts before the show ends. I mention her because I wonder why the names of writers and directors so rarely appear in these pages. Am I the only fan of people like Gene L. Coon, Melinda Snodgrass, Joseph Pevney, etc? When I watch ST I am drinking in the scripting, directing, music, etc, and from reading these pages I often feel I must be alone. I would appreciate anyone contradicting me, and commenting on the production - not just the actors. That's all from me for now. Thanks for listening, friends, and thank you to all who have responded to me in the past.

*[Janet - Our intention at the moment is not to ignore DS9. We will continue to report all the news we get on the new series and leave it to members to decide whether they want to discuss it, write articles on it etc.*

*Regarding zines - we hear from a fan in the States that Paramount are planning to ban DS9 zines on copyright grounds. Gene used to be delighted that Star Trek encouraged people to write and share their stories - Paramount and the new producers seem to feel otherwise. If this ban goes ahead it may do more to separate DS9 from Gene's Star Trek than anything they do with the episodes.]*

## Questions

**Jenny Mills:** when my membership expires how do I go about renewing it?

*Janet: First, if you want to know when your membership expires look at the top of the label on your newsletter envelope. You will find here the last newsletter you will receive with your current membership.*

*With your final newsletter you should receive a renewal form. You just complete that and send it with your dues to Janet.*

**Sue Watkins:** I know CIC have released the 25th Anniversary Special in the special boxed set of the movies, but have they released it separately, or, if not, are there are plans for them to do so.

*Janet: I have not heard of this being released separately but I would expect them to release it sometime.*

**Margie Ferguson -** I thought Ensign was the lowest rank in Starfleet, but some of the crew have no pips at all - what is their rank?

In Code of Honor, when Tasha and Yarena are beamed back to the ship after their fight, Tasha is worried that Yarena is growing cold (after 25 seconds? That's a bit panicky for a Security Chief!) What is Dr. Crusher's reply? To me it sounds like "That's all right, it *clashes* with my instructions", which surely can't be right!

**Michael Sadler -** Just about everyone knows what the T stands for in James T Kirk, but what does the T stand for in William T Riker?

*[Ed - This is a question that crops up from time to time. The T stands for Thelonus, after a well-*

*known jazz musician.]*

**Roger Buck:** Have Gene Roddenberry's *The Lieutenant* and *Have Gun, Will Travel*, ever been shown on British TV? If so, on which stations and how recently?

*Janet: I remember seeing Have Gun Will Travel years ago - possibly in the 50's. Gene was head writer on that show. I have never seen The Lieutenant.*

I have heard conflicting reports on Strange New World, a television film that is clearly related to Gene's *Genesis II* and *Planet Earth*. Most claim Gene had nothing to do with it, but a few - including a *Starlog* special - claim he did and chose not to be credited. Does anyone know the definitive story?

*Janet: According to Epi-log Journal #5, "Gene Roddenberry bailed out of the 'Genesis II-based pilots after 'Planet Earth', but Warner Brothers decided to give it one more try. They need not have bothered. The results are substandard, to say the least, and even the concept that Roddenberry had put together so well had been abandoned and the character names changed to avoid legal entanglements."*

Can anyone give me a brief description of the scenes that were added to the TV version of *Wrath of Khan*, and approximately how much time they add?

## Can You Help?

**Jan Leyland** is desperately trying to identify the 2 pieces of Mozart's string quartets used in the TNG episode, *Sarek*. She thinks the first is from K465, but cannot find any source for the second. Can anyone help?

*Janet - see letter earlier in Posting.*

**Peter Arnett** would like to know where he can get a copy of the single 7" record entitled "Where's Captain Kirk?" by Spizz in 1979.

**Colin Mackay** If anyone knows where I can get *Star Trek Clip Art* for my Amiga please let me know (only if it's cheap, though, or if it's Public Domain and you can send me a copy of the disc). I have three pictures of the TV *Enterprise*, *Kirk* and *Spock*, and am looking for more.

I also saw an advert for fonts, of which (three) were the "Classic Trek font", "NCC 1701 font" and "Generations font" - I thought I might get them but I have lost the advert. If you know where I can get Amiga bitmap or CompuGraphic (CG) fonts, and for how much, I'd be very grateful.

**Lee H Dewar:** I would be grateful if members who have spotted any mistakes in the books/zines/Technical manuals would contact me. I have spotted a mistake in the "Web of the Romulans" by M.S. Murdock, it is on the front cover. (See Friendship Column for address.)

☆☆☆☆

# STAR TREK EXHIBITION - WASHINGTON DC

by Katrina Heintz

I had read of the difficulties people had in getting into this exhibition, and thought I had better have my relatives book the tickets, or so I believed. They tried every number they could find, including the one given in IDIC, but no luck. One number said all advance tickets were booked, another said no tickets were needed, others drew complete blanks. We decided to try our luck and try to arrive in Washington before 9am to queue up

for tickets - that's a three hour drive from Philadelphia where I was staying. A very, very early start! Actually it was nearer 10 pm before we got there as we got lost in the centre of the city. Keeping fingers, toes and anything else crossed we entered the Smithsonian's Air and Space Museum. There was a queue but not a large one, and since I was the one who wanted to go, I was appointed ticket collector. Apprehensively I

approached the desk and asked for seven tickets. "Certainly," the man replied and handed me the tickets for the 11.15 am showing. I almost fainted with relief after all the hassle we had getting there.

Since there was over an hour to kill, we had a look around part of the museum. It's an incredible place and worth more than just a quick tour round; I wish we had had more time to see it. At last it was our turn to queue for the exhibit. I knew it was going to be small, but I was looking forward to it.

It starts with various plaques on the wall displaying Gene Roddenberry's life story and how Star Trek came into being - nothing new to an ardent fan, but it was beautifully done. Opposite was a case with the two versions of a Klingon Bird of Prey, one from the series and the larger one from the films. The next room held more plaques of stills from the original series with captions telling the story line and any special points to that episode, such as the first inter-racial kiss, etc. There were also large glass cases of costumes, Kirk's, Uhura's, Kang's, Mara's and many more. Alongside were smaller cases with the writers' bible and scripts with props displayed around them. One thing I remembered afterwards, there were no phasers, or did I just miss them? I was disappointed though that the navigation console was behind glass with some costumes - the others and I had looked forward to having our pictures taken with it, but never mind, for round the corner was the piece de resistance. The Transporter Platform.

There are cut-outs of the Big Three standing at the back, leaving the front three pads free for visitors to stand on. Having had our photos taken, we were about to move away when the lights began to flash and we heard the noise of the transporter sequence start. Shock! My cousin stood and laughed; she had seen it happen to the people in front of us while we looked at other things and she knew what was going to happen.

We moved on to the next room and the

Captain's chair. I think it may have been the actual one, as it certainly looked like it, and a mock-up of a computer console behind it. More photos - I was glad I had taken extra spools with me! On the walls were the posters from all six films and a glass case with some of the original toys available in the sixties.

We then had to queue again for the 30-minute film show which is shown on a loop system. It's very difficult to get seats for this and we saw the second part first and the first half second. Basically it was interviews from cast and guest artists regarding the show and a few clips which were all subtitled. Then there was one final glass case of costumes before we left the exhibit.

The best model on show was one of the Enterprise lit up - it was hanging from the ceiling alongside another version and a shuttlecraft. It was probably the best place for them as they were very tempting exhibits - as were they all!

My one criticism was that you are not given enough time to go round the exhibition. It seemed that by the time we walked round it and then queued for the film show the next group was behind us. I would have loved to have taken my time to see the exhibits and then queued up for tickets and the film show, which was also being shown downstairs in the main hall. Strange.

The gift shop was too small for the number of visitors, with many of the gifts not worth buying. They only had the novel Probe and one or two background books. The main gift shop had the better gifts. I think we must have arrived on a bad day as most things had run out or were running out. I had had my eye on a pair of ST ear rings as a present (sorry, Heather!) but the person in front of me bought them.

Final verdict - if you can go to the States try and get to the exhibition - it's worth it. If you can, take a camcorder with you - photographs don't do some of the exhibits justice.

# AN APPRECIATION OF GENE L. COON

by Roger Buck

Part of my wish to appreciate Mr. Coon's work at this time comes from the fact I miss in this excellent newsletter discussion about Star Trek - the television series. (Although I occasionally enjoy reading the Star Trek fiction, it has yet to give me the same joy I find in the television episodes). For that reason, I'd like to appreciate the man who, after G.R., appears to have given more to create the Star Trek I love than any other, and a writer who seems most under-rated to me - Gene L. Coon.

For me, Coon falls into a Paladin that seems every bit as crucial to the quality of the original series as that formed by Shatner, Nimoy and Kelley. I speak of the triad of Gene Roddenberry, Coon and D.C. Fontana. Together these three wrote or contributed to more scripts and stories than any other figure. In total, these three are credited with contributing to 27 teleplays and an additional 8 stories. Nearly half the series' scripts derived from the inspiration of these three people.

One hears much about Roddenberry and Fontana, and yet little of the other Gene. Why? Is it because he passed away before the advent of mass fandom, or that he is not forgiven for Spock's Brain? Whatever the case I would like to remember the contribution of this man - because I think Star Trek owes him so much.

To give Gene Coon his due, I'd like to look to his contribution to Star Trek in the three areas of its production, writing and philosophy.

Taking production first, there is perhaps little comment a non-television professional can make about this art. I simply note that the episodes Coon is credited with producing from No. 12 *Miri*, through to No. 43 *Bread and Circuses* (he also produced No. 45 - *A Private Little War*) belong for me to Star Trek's golden era. It is not with the advent of the third season that I feel Star Trek's decline began, but midway

through the second. With Coon's departure came new directors in place of the alternating and superlative work of Pevney and Daniels; came, in my opinion, a lesser consistency of quality in the scripts and a poorer visual look. On this basis alone, I feel Gene C. appears to have contributed much, and that had Star Trek been produced by someone else when Gene R. left - for example, Fred Freiberger who was also considered at that point - Star Trek might have been a very different show.

But it is in the area of writing that I most appreciate this Gene's contribution. Gene Coon wrote or co-wrote more Star Trek scripts than any other - 12 in all. When I consider that the four teleplays he is credited with entirely are *Arena*, *Devil in the Dark*, *Errand of Mercy* and *Metamorphosis*, and he received primary credit for *Space Seed* and secondary credit for *Bread and Circuses* and *A Taste of Armageddon* among others, I am astonished he has not received greater credit as these include for me, particularly the first four, some of Star Trek's finest hours. Without these episodes Star Trek's legacy would not be so great. True, under the pseudonym of Lee Cronin the same man appears to be responsible for the unpopular *Spock's Brain* and *Spectre of the Gun*, but I think the latter episode has much to commend it, as I touch on below.

Finally I would like to appreciate the articulation Coon's scripts gave to the series' philosophy. Coon powerfully explored tolerance and non-prejudice to alien life forms in *Devil in the Dark* as well as in his story for *Let That Be Your Last Battlefield*. The importance of non-violence, and the stupidity of war are shown in *Arena*, *Errand of Mercy*, *Spectre of the Gun* and *A Taste of Armageddon*. And I feel *Metamorphosis* is perhaps the series' most beautiful exploration of Love.

But what I feel is Coon's greatest contribution to Trek's philosophy is the image of the human being that runs as a

thread throughout his scripts. It is the image of the Human as half creature, with the killer instincts of the animal, yet at the same time half spiritual. When Kirk refuses to kill in Arena and Spectre of the Gun, these are the moments that lift me up and give me joy.

And as someone to whom a spiritual interpretation of reality is the most natural, I am pleased by the exploration of greater consciousness in Errand of Mercy, the acknowledgement of "The Maker Of All Things" and "God" in Metamorphosis and Who Mourns for Adonais and even the affirmation of traditional religion in Bread and Circuses.

All these thoughts leave me wondering who Gene L. Coon really was. I cannot help but form the impression of a thoughtful, sensitive and caring Human. None of this appreciation detracts from the great regard I hold for Gene Roddenberry, but I do believe the articulation of Star Trek's humanity and vision owes a great deal to this forgotten man. I am deeply grateful for what he gave.

Note: Writing credits for the episodes given are from The Star Trek Compendium by Allan Asherman - which appears to furnish fuller data than the episode credits.

☆☆☆☆

## STAR TREK VI

### - a defence of Kirk's attitude towards the Klingons

by Nicole Comtet

Regarding Kirk's attitude to Klingons and the peace talks, which many fans, mostly Kirk fans probably, object to, it seems to me an understandable, even a normal, reaction - Kirk's not Superman, he is very human, with human qualities and shortcomings, and that is what makes him so likeable and so close to us. In his article "ST VI, Kirk's reaction", Edwin Yau gives some explanations which I find quite convincing and with which I concur, except the point about Carol Marcus which is irrelevant since it does not appear in the film, only in the novel.

I think, however, that there is more to say about it. What Kirk says to Spock - "They are animals. Don't trust them..." etc, reminds me of what many people said after the war about the Japanese and the Germans. I once met an American who had fought the 'Japs' in the Pacific, and had seen them and their deeds at close quarters. "You can't trust these people," he told me. Kirk's very words.

Only people who have been in close contact with the enemy, people who have

seen their country invaded three times in as many generations, their homes destroyed, their relatives or neighbours deported or tortured and shot, can tell what it takes to give up ingrained hate and prejudice and hold out their hands to the former enemy. Remember, it took time and some visionary and determined persons like Konrad Adenauer and Robert Schuman to change mentalities and bring about what was unthinkable 50 years ago - union and friendship between France and Germany.

To me, Kirk and his crew are in the same situation.

During their long career, they have fought Klingons, the arch enemies of the Federation. Kirk has seen Klingon atrocities at first hand, he has been their prisoner, he has seen members of his crew tortured - Spock with the mind sifter, Chekov with the agoniser - and last, his son has been ruthlessly killed.

True, on Genesis, in an instinctive

gesture, he holds out his hand to the Klingon Captain, but the next moment, when the Klingon tries to pull him down, Kirk kicks him into the abyss, yelling, "I have seen enough of you!"

No wonder, then, if he reacts so

violently at the Starfleet briefing. It is a normal gut reaction from a fine man who is put on the spot. And this reaction gives still more value to Kirk's acceptance of the situation, his realisation that "Spock was right," as he says to McCoy at Rura Penthe.

☆☆☆☆

## BEAM ME UP, SCOTTY

by Chris Bailey

Whilst reading N/L 24, my curiosity was somewhat piqued by the unusual request of Barbara Ellams, who was asking (P3) for specific information on that illusive, but nonetheless famous, ST saying; "Beam me up, Scotty/Mr Scott".

Well, I must admit that I myself couldn't remember which episode Kirk was reputed to have said it in, so I thought that I'd sit down and run through my complete ST collection (63.7 hours!) to settle the matter... (Yawn!) As you can see from the raw data below, I have listed one or more similar 'sayings' from each relevant episode.

Part 1 - Captain James T Kirk said to Scotty...  
(First season)

Ep. No.

16 "... Mr Scott, beam us directly aboard."

23 "Scotty... we're ready to beam up"

(Second season)

46 "Scotty, beam us up."

55 "Scotty, beam us directly to Seven's apartment."

"Two to beam up, Scotty."

(Third season)

59 "Scotty, energise."

64 "Mr Scott, stand by to beam us back."

"Scotty, energise transporter."

67 "Mr Scott, prepare to beam us up."

71 "Mr Scott, ready to beam up."

74 "Mr Scott, we're ready to beam up."

"Mr Scott, beam us up."

77 "Scotty, beam us up fast."

78 "Scotty, are you there? Beam us aboard."

79 "Mr Scott, prepare to beam the medical

team aboard."

Part 2 - Captain James T Kirk said to Enterprise...

(First season)

5 "Captain Kirk. Ready to beam up."

6 "... Kirk speaking. Three to beam up."

18 "This is the Captain. Commence beaming up."

19 "Kirk to Enterprise. Lock on transporters, beam us up."

25 "This is the Captain. Beam me up."

(Second season)

30 "Kirk to Enterprise. Five to beam up."

35 "Enterprise... beam me aboard."

Part 3 - Captain James T Kirk said to Mr Spock...

(First season)

18 "Beam me up, Mr Spock."

(Second season)

35 "... Prepare to beam me aboard on my signal."

Part 4 - Mr Spock said to Mr Scott...

(Third season)

58 "Beam us up, Mr Scott."

Interestingly, the nearest Kirk *ever* comes to saying that famous phrase was in episode 18, The Squire of Gothos, although even in this instance, Kirk says it to Mr Spock rather than Mr Scott. It's not too hard to see where the saying originated from, albeit in a slightly altered form...

I would be interested to hear about anyone else who sends in data on this point.

☆☆☆☆

# GILLIAN TAYLOR - WILL HISTORY BE CHANGED?

by Kathleen Glancy

In N/L 24, Neil Barrett commented that since Gillian Taylor stated that she had no ties, her disappearance would just go down in the records as a missing person with negligible effects on history.

Gillian may have no ties at the moment she tells Kirk so. Neither she nor he can possibly know that she would *never* have any ties if she lived out her life in her own time. She is still young - she could have been due to marry and have a child who would do something significant. Even if we suppose she knows herself to be sterile, her absence from her proper time could have effects stemming from things so small they would never be recorded. For example, she bumps into someone on the street. Because of the few seconds' delay that person is narrowly missed by a car driven through a red light by a drunk driver. When Gillian is removed the week before that was due to happen the person is hit by the car and dies. The person, a doctor, was about to make a breakthrough in developing an AIDS vaccine but was not ready to make his or her theories known. The development of the vaccine is delayed by five years during which time thousands of people who would have been saved die.

Even Gillian's disappearance would make waves. She may not have close ties but she is not like the bum in City on the Edge of Forever. She has a job, a home, pays her taxes. Her colleagues or neighbours are going to notice she's gone. The colleagues, in particular, are going to wonder, unless they are incredibly stupid, if she is somehow involved in the disappearance of the two whales (remember their radio signals will have stopped rather abruptly). She will be reported missing, and for a person of her standing - white, educated, employed, prosperous - the police will at least make some effort to find out what happened to her. They may well think, when they find none of her clothes, money, etc, missing, that she has been murdered. For as long as they pursue her case, some policemen will be looking for her instead of whatever they would have been doing had she not disappeared. Who knows what effects that could have had?

I still believe Kirk chose, and I'd say correctly, not to argue with her in the knowledge that she would be returned to her proper place and no harm done. He has, after all, let a woman he cared for far more meet a far worse fate to preserve his world.

☆☆☆☆

## STAR TREK VI: HAMLET ACT 3 SCENE 1

by Alex Pidd

Have you ever had the desire to state the play, act and scene of all those Shakespearian quotes in the assured manner of a certain Vulcan? In Star Trek VI there's a verbal torrent of the Bard's work, certainly Nicholas Meyer's favourite author if not James Kirk's. With the help of friends (thanks to Tracy, Nina and Mike) I've put together this list of the most noticeable instances, although I suspect there are more examples lurking in the script or even on the cutting room floor.

### 1. Julius Caesar

Cry havoc, and let slip the dogs of war.

Act III scene i

If I could pray to move, prayers would move me;

But I am constant as the northern star.

Act III scene i

### 2. The Tempest

Our revels now are ended. These our actors, as I foretold you, were all spirits and are now melted into air, into thin air.

Act IV scene i

O brave new world that has such people in't.

Act V scene i

### 3. King Henry IV Part II

We have heard the chimes at midnight.  
Mister Shallow.

Act III scene ii

### 4. King Henry V

Once more unto the breach, dear friends,  
once more; or close the wall up with our  
English dead!...

... I see you stand like greyhounds in the  
slips, straining upon the start. The game's  
afoot.

Act III scene i

### 5. Hamlet, Prince of Denmark

To be, or not to be: that is the question...

... but that the dread of something after death,  
The undiscovered country, from whose  
bourne

No traveller returns...

Act III scene i

### 6. Romeo and Juliet

Good night, good night, parting is such sweet  
sorrow.

Act II scene ii

### 7. King Richard II

For God's sake, let us sit upon the ground and  
tell sad stories of the death of kings.

Act III scene ii

### 8. Merchant of Venice

If you prick us, do we not bleed? If you tickle  
us, do we not laugh? If you poison us, do we  
not die? And if you wrong us, shall we not  
revenge?

Act III scene i

and one last non-Shakespearian quote for  
Kirk's attitude to life over Spock's cold logic;  
For fools rush in where angels fear to tread.

Alexander Pope, An Essay on

Criticism

☆☆☆☆☆

## YOU PRONOUNCE IT HOW???

or rather

## ARE YOU SURE YOU SPELL IT THAT WAY?

Thoughts re use of Klingon dictionaries in ST VI 5

by Taruka Queuhtezcatl

With a surname like mine it is  
surprising that I hadn't even considered the  
question raised by the use of dictionaries in  
ST VI. If you're listening to a language how  
can you be sure of how it's written?

An example could be the word 'chika'  
in the language called Quechua. In speech it  
could actually be 'chika', a little; 'cchika', a lot;  
or even 'ch'ika', tired. And believe me, it  
takes practice to know which one it is.  
Imagine the problem caused by attempting to  
translate something spoken purely from a  
dictionary.

Alternatively, I would invite you to try  
and pronounce the following sentence:

Llestede ay dyust mist a xowe oph  
phayn reyn.

Unpronounceable? Gibberish? That's  
likely how a Spanish speaker would think  
"Yesterday I just missed a shower of fine  
rain" was written if he were unfamiliar with  
the language.

Also, if you use a dictionary - you have  
to be at least partly familiar with how a  
language is put together, ie grammar and  
syntax. And if Uhura was familiar enough  
with the language to know its structure, why  
did she need a dictionary in the first place???

There also lies the problem of regional  
variation - why should Klingons all speak

'Oxford Klingon' (for lack of a better name)? There will be regional variations - which can be quite noticeable. Do the Klingons have the equivalent of Brummies, Glaswegians, Geordies and Scouses (the very thought makes me turn to jelly). Assuming they do, the problem of understanding them (no offence to Glasgow - I have enough trouble with my Hamilton-born fiancé) becomes nearly impossible. Finally there is the

problem of what is probably best called 'Klingon slang' - which undoubtedly exists.

Taking this lot into consideration... are you sure that the dictionaries would actually be useful?

A dramatic idea which would, therefore, seem pointless. I invite you to try and pronounce my surname.

☆☆☆☆

## NAKED TIMES

(or Who Needs the Chippendales?)

by Gloria Fry

WARNING - THIS ARTICLE MAY BE MORE SUITABLE FOR THE  
FEMALE OF THE SPECIES

More than twenty years before the popularity of the baring of male bodies, commonplace now due to such groups as The Chippendales, a certain actor was flaunting his charms for the delight of a female audience. I refer - of course - to William Shatner.

In 25.64% of the 78 episodes featuring James T Kirk, one fact is very obvious to the discerning female. The handsome Captain of the USS Enterprise appears in a state of undress in an obviously blatant attempt to glue us to the screen in breathless admiration of his physical attributes.

More than one innocent female viewer has been entrapped by the sight of him, muscular body beaded with sweat, as he becomes involved in yet another shirt-ripping sequence.

No other TV character of the 60s or later (apart from Tarzan) displayed his manly attractions with such frequency, and recalling some of them, that small mercy is - perhaps - thankful. Can one envision the smarmy Napoleon Solo or the weedy Ilya Kuryakin from Man from Uncle; the overweight Doug Phillips from Time Tunnel; the stiff-upper-lipped Jim Phelps from Mission Impossible

exposing their bodies in such a manner?

I have made a long, arduous, in-depth study of Captain Kirk's 'Naked Times', slaving many exhausting hours over a hot video recorder to research this article. The following analysis is the result.

### EPISODES

1) WHERE NO MAN HAS GONE BEFORE - The power-crazy Gary Mitchell is the first antagonist to tear Kirk's shirt in a vicious fight between good and evil. Only a bare left shoulder and a glimpse of a masculine pectoral are seen, but that is only a taste of the delights yet to come.

2) THE CORBOMITE MANOUVER - A quarterly physical check shows us a sweating, bare-chested Kirk undergoing a torturous fitness test in sickbay, complaining that McCov is killing him. He then strides through the ship's corridors, his uniform tunic wrapped around his neck, and NO-ONE (well-trained crew that they are, during an alert) even notices him. A further few moments in the lift, then on to the next scene in his quarters where he puts on a fresh shirt. Our James T is certainly Human. He sweats, he becomes irritable, and he even changes his

clothes!

3) **THE ENEMY WITHIN** - The gentle Kirk after a shower/bath is stretching his aching towel-covered neck when Spock arrives to question him. Spock is ill at ease, but whether it is from the confusing conversation or the half-naked Captain smiling at him is open to speculation. Joking apart, the man's skin is so perfect it makes the ordinary acne-suffering viewer incredibly envious. I mean, most of us have at least a few spots on our backs...

4) **NAKED TIME** - Only a brief glimpse this time, when McCoy rips Kirk's tunic at the right shoulder to administer a drug by his trusty hypo. To my knowledge this is the only time this is done, for the hypo is normally able to work through layers of clothing. Perhaps McCoy is just being incredibly clumsy. Sulu fans get a treat in this episode as the Helmsman buckles a fine swash...

5) **CHARLIE X** - In the gymnasium, wearing nothing but red Starfleet issue tights and black socks, the admittedly gorgeously muscled, athletic Captain of the Enterprise tries to teach the thin, underdeveloped Charlie to defend himself. The physical activities and the worries caused by Charlie's powers causes a nice sweat to break out on Kirk, only adding to his attractiveness. (Choke... gasp... Breathe in, breathe out, Gloria. Remember you are a Spock fan! Be still my beating heart!)

6) **WHAT ARE LITTLE GIRLS MADE OF?** - The android duplication process reveals more of Captain Kirk. Covered only at a strategic place by the restraining cover of the turntable, we see a pair of bare legs along with the usual naked chest. But... there are more delights in store when that blob of goo becomes a second naked Captain. Too much of a good thing, girls? Oh, no, you say? I agree.

7) **MIRI** - The virus affecting Kirk causes him to become unzipped... Unlike McCoy, he is not wearing the black T shirt, so we see a little flesh at the join of neck and shoulder. Later there is a short glimpse of lower arms.

8) **COURT MARTIAL** - The fight with Ben Finney causes Kirk's shirt to rip again. What kind of material does Starfleet use in these uniforms anyway? Obviously not Kirk-proof. But at least the collar survives intact.

9) **SHORE LEAVE** - The epic fight with Finnegan results in yet another beautifully torn shirt. This time our handsome Captain also becomes artfully dirty and bloody (Kay Stagg, is this your favourite episode?) Actually I believe they used the same ripped shirt out of Court Martial, it's just a little more ragged. The collar is still intact, though. Amazing! Well, waste not, want not.

10) **AMOK TIME** - The fight to the death with Spock ruins another uniform top when the lipra slices through the uniform with ease, drawing blood. Those perfectly formed pectorals are revealed to us once again.

11) **MIRROR MIRROR** - The mirror-Kirk's uniform - a gold/green little number, sleeveless and low cut, is quite revealing. It is very nice indeed and goes with his eyes. By contrast, the mirror Spock is even more covered up than usual. Oh, well, we can't have everything.

12) **JOURNEY TO BABEL** - Knifed by the Orion spy, Kirk is seen in sickbay, bare-chested, but with a large futuristic bandage around much of his upper body. Too bad a band-aid wouldn't have sufficed!

13) **THE DEADLY YEARS** - In his quarters, a bare-chested Kirk is about to put on a fresh shirt. Had he been in the shower again? Sweating a lot again? He calls Spock for a progress report, then clutches his poor back as arthritis hits him.

14) **A PRIVATE LITTLE WAR** - After receiving the mugato bite, Kirk is lying on furs, his native jacket spread open while the witch woman Nona's hands and hair wander all over his skin (lucky girl) during the healing sequence. All this is accompanied by chanting, groans, moans, heavy breathing and sweating. Time for another shower, Jim? A cold one, perhaps!

15) THE GAMESTERS OF TRISKELION - His tunic torn to bits by the whip of the toothy giant thrall, Kirk spends much of this episode wearing only a harness over his tastefully scarred chest. He woos the gorgeous Shanna (what chance does the poor woman have?) and reasons with the gambling-loving brains. (What chance did the poor brains have with the poker-playing Captain?)

16) PATTERNS OF FORCE - Stripped to the waist by the Ekosian Nazis, Kirk and Spock are subjected to a whipping. Well used to the Captain's charms, we are now given the treat of seeing the very different body of our gorgeous Vulcan. Lean musculature, a touch of rib showing, a light scattering of hair on his chest, such a narrow waist... Gulp... swallow... yum... sigh... Quite a contrast to the smooth-skinned, chunkier Kirk. The Captain soon finds something to wear, but Spock - to our delight - wanders around much of the time innocently topless. Better enjoy it girls, that is his one and only time during the 79 episodes he appeared in. He may not be a Chippendale (or even a Kirk) but in his own way, is just as stunning. Some might think more so.

17) THE PARADISE SYNDROME - The amnesiac, bare-chested Kirk frolicking with his lovely native wife Miramanee is a charming, innocent sight. Would he have been happy to remain with her, I wonder?

18) THE EMPATH - The Vians torture Kirk, tying him up by the wrists, his half-naked form hanging in mid-air. He sweats and suffers and moans with pain. Did they allow him to have a shower before they returned him to Spock, McCoy and Gem? I hope so. McCoy is the one to get his shirt torn in this episode.

19) PLATO'S STEPCHILDREN - Kirk's Greek-style tunic is draped across his body to reveal the right side of his chest, its short hemline showing his legs to perfection. Spock's costume is a little more restrained (Boo... sob...) but his legs are also on view.

Question: which one of them has the nicer legs?

20) TURNABOUT INTRUDER - In sickbay for a physical check, Janice Lester (in Kirk's body) has to bare her chest - as is normal for the Captain. She dabs delicately at her skin with a towel, obviously unused to the copious amount of sweating Kirk's male body is accustomed to.

Question: was she embarrassed at being topless?

## EPISODES IN WHICH KIRK SHOULD HAVE HAD A TORN UNIFORM

1) ARENA- How did the cloth stand against the powerful reptilian Gorn when ordinary men, such as Finney and Finnegan, were able to tear it? I read somewhere that the original idea was to have Kirk wear an identical outfit to his opponent. Now that would have been fabulous, but perhaps it was too cold. One can see glimpses of his thermals at times.

2) SPACE SEED - Khan, with five times Kirk's strength, should have ripped his uniform to shreds. Oh well, Khan himself supplied enough beefcake in that particular one!

3) THE OMEGA GLORY - The constant vicious fights with the Yangs and Captain Tracey should have proved too much for Kirk's Starfleet material. Perhaps they had improved its durability by that time.

4) SPOCK'S BRAIN - The fight with the enormous, brutish Eymorgs should have done some damage. Unfortunately for us, it did not.

AFTERWORD: There are of course the many episodes when our Captain wore those more revealing green wrapover tunics, and some where he should have shown us his attractive body, eg Wink of an Eye, where all we saw was a boot being put back on, or City, when he changed into the stolen clothes, but we can't really complain. In the male-dominated TV industry, it is amazing that the needs of the female audience were even considered. Certainly the miniskirted crewwomen and scantily clad female aliens were a deliberate ploy to hook the male viewer, and that in the 60s, as in every other decade, has always

been the norm.

In Star Trek, never forget that half the population are women. In this area as well as all others, Star Trek was ahead of its time.

ADDENDUM - this light-hearted article has been written by one who has been a Spock fan since the 60s, but for some reason did not discover that she was a Kirk fan also until she began buying the videos over the last five years. It has been an amazing revelation.

☆☆☆☆

## KIRK - THE PERFECT LEADER

*Janet - I couldn't resist printing the following extract because the writer sees Kirk the way I do.*

"Dorothy Lipovenko's Perfect Leader Can Be Found at the Helm of the USS Enterprise" by Dorothy Lipovenko. Fifth Column Toronto Globe & Mail, 1/7/91.

Much has been made of Star Trek's 79-episode legacy; how the series helped science fiction grow up, transforming it from the realm of Buck Rogers and bug-eyed monsters crushing cities with one foot, to an examination of morality in the guise of futuristic intergalactic adventures.

To be honest, I don't care a whit from one episode to the next where the ship's crew beams down or if some hapless yeoman is going to be vaporized by crystals in some strange rock he's sent to investigate (you can always tell which yeoman is going to get dinged; he or she is the only unfamiliar face to accompany the landing party, whose members always happen to be the show's stars and therefore need one yeoman a week to touch this stuff.)

It's not what hooked me on Star Trek but who - the man running the starship, Captain James T. Kirk. At the end of each episode as the haunting music fades and the USS Enterprise whooshes out of sight I turn to no one in particular and sigh, "Now that's a leader."

Not for nothing am I impressed with Capt. Kirk (Yes, I know that sometimes Jim's hormones alone could have sent the Enterprise into warp drive, but forget about that for now.) His style is what great leadership is all about. And on this Canada

Day, when we're desperate for a strong hand at the helm, when we want commanders with the logic of Mr. Spock and the compassion of Dr. McCoy (the yin-yang of Kirk's personality), we need look no further than the boss of the Enterprise.

Kirk is, first and last, the boss. But he's big enough to admit when he's wrong, when he's made a mistake, and he has the grace to apologise. A little humanity goes a long way to humanize a leader.

Jim runs a tight ship, but understands the meaning of teamwork. Decisions ultimately rest with him, but this is a chief who consults and listens to his senior staff. Capt. Kirk does not suffer fools gladly, but he does reserve a soft spot for nudniks who can get the ship out of a technical jam, like chief engineer Scotty. And he remembers to say thanks.

By extension, Capt. Kirk puts a new spin on the word loyalty. When forced to choose between sending Spock or McCoy on a fatal mission, he agonizes over which of his two best friends he is condemning to death. Despite that friendship, Jim does not allow personal feelings to interfere with his judgement. He owes his staff - even if some of them are his friends - their well-being and safety, not personal favours.

Even by our twentieth-century standards, Kirk is something of an anachronism. For a commander with a host of technical weaponry at his disposal, Kirk is kind of old-fashioned, preferring to use good old-fashioned know-how than fancy toys to defeat his opponents. In the 23rd century, he

seems to have revived that ancient management tool, the gentleman's agreement.

Most important of all, Kirk is a leader who recognizes his weaknesses, even if he doesn't always understand them.

One could say that James T. Kirk was

simply ahead of his time. True, he lived in the 23rd century, but let's not forget that he was created 25 years ago. It's not too late to find the qualities of leadership embodied in this fictional character. The sooner, the better.

(I found this article in Atavachron from USS Resolution, Victoria, Canada.)

☆☆☆☆

## SAAVIK

by Edward Woo

In most fans' minds Saavik portrayed by Kirstie Alley is considered as the best. Only two actresses have filled the role, though this nearly became three in ST VI. I have to admit I enjoyed Kirstie's interpretation of the character, no doubt with help from the director, Nick Meyer. I would say that she played the role in a bouncy sort of way. She was played as an inexperienced cadet with plenty to learn from life, death and how Starships work. Being half Vulcan, half Romulan, she highlighted the Romulan side with emotional tears at the loss of her teacher Spock (shown at his funeral).

Many fans have criticised Robin Curtis's ability to fill the role of Saavik and her interpretation of the character. I would like to defend her, as she did a good job in that role in ST III (and briefly in ST IV). Any actress filling a role made popular by a previous one will have a difficult time, but I think ST fans have been too hard on her. Robin saw the role differently and no doubt played it the way Leonard wanted it. This Saavik was more Vulcan, and more controlled - like Spock. In ST III she seemed to have grown up, being more serious and logical about the Genesis device. She used the word 'fascinating' and when she said "David is dead" it was in a Vulcan way. Would Kirstie have said it in an emotional form? Given that there was supposed to be a relationship between David and Saavik, it was not shown - or the possibility of a pregnant Saavik might have changed things. She was very logical in comparing the actions

of David in making Genesis work to those of his father changing the conditions of the Starfleet test, whose final solution was unique.

She showed good understanding, especially in comforting young Spock through pon farr, which I thought went well; also the final scenes where she could sense Fal Tor Pan at work.

For ST IV her appearance looked even better and it was a pity she was only seen briefly, taking a long leave of absence of Vulcan. It was right that she was able to mention David to Kirk, showing she did have feeling for him.

Up to the last minute, Saavik was pencilled in as the traitor, but Valeris finally stepped into the part and it would seem right, as I would have had difficulty in accepting Saavik as a collaborator.

As for the future of Saavik, they tried to have Kirstie for the TNG episode Cause and Effect, to be an officer with Kelsey Crammer from Cheers, but it didn't pan out.

Saavik could return as an officer in ST VII if room was available to use her, perhaps as an alternative to replace Spock if Leonard didn't want to continue the Spock role, as originally Saavik was introduced in ST II as a back-up to the great science officer.

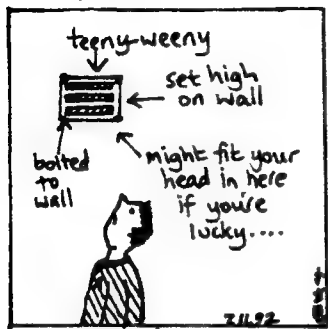
I think Saavik is a good character and

could be played again by Robin Curtis, as too difficult to swallow.  
Kirstie Alley would cost too much to hire.  
Another actress playing the part would be

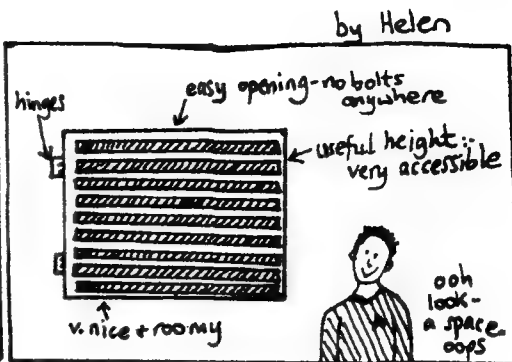
Anybody care to comment?

☆☆☆☆

## Typical Trek



1. 'NORMAL'



2. TREK

## SONS, DAUGHTERS, BROTHERS, SISTERS AND SINGLE PARENTS

by Edward Woo

Has anyone noticed that there is a distinct recurring theme in Star Trek?

It all started in ST II with Admiral Kirk having an illegitimate son called David. Subsequently David was killed in ST III and Dr. Carol Marcus is off somewhere in space.

In TNG we have Dr Bev Crusher and son Wesley, with father Jack having been killed in the line of duty. Wesley will soon (for UK viewers) be packed off to Starfleet Academy.

In the episode The Child, Counselor Troi has a son called Ian who dies in the end. For Reunion Worf has an illegitimate son, Alexander; his mother K'Ehleyr is killed. In Future Imperfect, Riker has a son called Jean-Luc - his mother Minuet is dead as well. It is rumoured that Picard will have a son in the fifth season - no doubt an illegitimate one with the mother dead (my speculation)? [Ed - no. It's a good bit more complicated than that.]

The trend is to have sons and one-parent families. Surely in the 24th century there's an equal chance of having a son or a daughter, just like today? Certainly Richard Arnold said at SOL III 92 that TNG is produced in North America with a male-dominated cast and production team for a male audience. If you work in Starfleet it is therefore more than likely you will be a one-parent family; and there is other evidence of boy-dominated stories in The Bonding and Picard's nephew in Family.

In contrast, in The Offspring, Data has a daughter, Lal; the Dauphin takes the form of a young girl and Disaster has a young girl and two boys. The only mother-daughter combination is Lwaxana and Deanna Troi. At least Tasha Yar had a daughter, but she is now the enemy of Starfleet. O'Brien and Keiko's child (Disaster) was initially thought to be a boy, as they both indicated male names - however, in a future episode, Powerplay, their child is named Molly.

Again, it's rumoured that in ST:DS9 the male commander will be a single parent with a young son. Why not a woman commander with a daughter? This would hark back to Gene's idea of the second in command in the original pilot episode being a woman.

Brothers is another theme repeated. We have Kirk's brother in Classic Trek, Spock's in ST V. Picard has a brother, Robert, in Family. In Sins of the Fathers, Worf turns out to have a brother, Kurn. Even Data has a brother - Lore. What about sisters? The only

one we've seen is Tasha's sister Ishara in The Legacy.

Anyone care to comment about this? I personally would like to see a bit more balance in these family-type stories; I await the next family/relative storyline to appear in TNG.

I also wonder - do Bev Crusher (other than Wesley) or Geordi La Forge have any blood relatives? Nothing has been mentioned to date!

☆☆☆☆

## A UNIFIED VIEW?

by Michael Sadler

Unification seemed to me to be quite good, Leonard Nimoy's and Mark Lenard's performances saving it from being average. For every good scene there is with Spock or Sarek, there is one that has nothing to do with the action - eg Riker playing the piano.

I may have missed a vital point, but why did the Romulans need Vulcan ships? If I were a Vulcan and was told that the Romulans were coming to discuss unification, I would expect them to come in their own Romulan ships. If the Romulans came in Vulcan ships, I would only suspect them of stealing them. The Vulcan ships seem to me to be something for the rest of the crew to do while Data and Picard go off to Romulus.

Also what is the reason for the increasing size of the shoulder pads that the Romulans wear? Is it a cunning disguise like their cloaking device?

"Captain, we are being attacked by some armchairs dressed in continental quilts!"

"They're not armchairs, they're Romulans. FIRE!"

The only explanation I can come up with is that with all of that padding they would probably survive if they fell off a mountain and Spock wasn't there to save

them with his jet boots.

Speaking of Spock, why wasn't he noticed on Romulus? After all, he was the only one walking around with no plastic lumps stuck to his forehead! Also I can't see how some Romulans and Spock could hide in some caves. The Romulans would have scanners to locate them and Purdak knew the identity of many of the Romulans. This means their homes could be searched and families arrested.

Like many people, I rented Unification on video, so I may have missed some points which may be covered in episodes leading up to Unification. Data and Picard are not at all surprised by the appearance of the Romulan who captures them looking like Tasha Yar. She also says that she has come to respect Data in battle. This would suggest they have met before, but neither Data nor Picard make comments like, "Oh no, not you again!" Shock, horror!

I know from written articles that her looking like Tasha Yar is due to events in and after Yesterday's Enterprise, but this is not explained in Unification.

The story itself seems to be full of holes, eg do we ever find out whether that distress call from the planet is really a fake?

Are people dying on the planet while Riker watches the Romulans blow up their own ships?

Towards the end of Unification I thought I was watching a 1960s episode of Batman storyline:-

Goodies have been captured by baddies and then the baddies tell them their entire plans in detail before leaving the goodies unguarded for no reason. Now the goodies are able to escape, stop the baddies' evil plans, and capture the baddies. And all is well with the universe again.

Spock and Sarek's relationship is once again on the rocks. What could have possibly split them up again after they became so close during the movies? I cannot believe that mere arguments could have done this.

Perhaps the death of Amanda had something to do with it, or the mentioned marriage of Spock; however these are ideas which are unexplored in Unification. I find this a pity.

Spock's comment on how Picard reminds him of another Captain of the Enterprise, rather than adding to the story seems to have been included for the benefit of the fans.

My final verdict about Unification is that is very hit and miss. It has a very weak storyline but this is well hidden by the inclusion of Spock. After all, most people will rent it or watch it because Spock and Sarek are in it. Unification is definitely worth watching (even if it is just to see Leonard Nimoy and Mark Lenard). Mr Data also makes a fascinating Romulan.

☆☆☆☆

## **REGARDING RO**

by Sara Jackson

In 'Ensign Ro' we are introduced to the Bajora and also a fascinating new addition to the Enterprise crew - Ro Laren. While viewing this episode I was initially struck by an eerie similarity between Ro's character and that of Lt. Natasha Yar (deceased). In fact, on seeing Ro again in Disaster I thought she looked quite at home hovering in front of the Tactical rail.

Like Yar, Ensign Ro had suffered a physically and emotionally unstable childhood, necessitating the development of a trust-no-one-but-yourself attitude to life. Where Tasha gradually learned to accept the friendship of others and regarded her Enterprise colleagues as 'family', Ro is still very much the loner; proud and aloof. To some extent her reluctance to mix is understandable, considering the opinions aired following her transfer to the Enterprise. As William Riker pointed out to Captain Picard, "There are members of this crew who won't want to serve with Ensign Laren, sir."

Ro's undesirable history certainly testifies to her being far from a model Starfleet officer (a refreshing change to the seemingly perfect crewmen who usually man Starfleet vessels). Picard's subtle reference to Ro's turbulent past at their first meeting is concluded with mention of Galon Two - an unspecified incident that appears to be the root of the prejudice directed at the Bajoran officer.

This particular event in Ro's life is once again touched on when Guinan imposes her company on Ro in Ten-Forward. It is intriguing that the enigmatic bartender decides to take an active interest in the Bajoran as we all know Guinan's talent for character-reading.

"They say you never told the true story of Galon Two. They also say you didn't defend yourself at your court-martial." Guinan's gentle probing would seem to suggest that maybe what happened was not entirely Ensign Ro's fault. Yet Ro's reply is

hardly enlightening. "What was to defend? I didn't follow orders. Eight members of the Away Team died. My fault." Without further details it is difficult to make any judgement.

Ro has an unfortunate tendency to promote a my-way-is-the-right-way approach to problems as demonstrated in 'Disaster' and has little tolerance for those who fail to agree with her way of thinking. Obviously this does not sit well with the very much team-oriented bridge crew. 'Disaster' also presents us with the coldly logical side of Ro's personality. With the Enterprise's containment field on the verge of collapse Ro quite callously advises Troi to separate the saucer-section from the drive-section and put as much distance between them before the drive-section explodes. The one important question here is exactly how many people would actually be in this part of the ship?

Chief O'Brien condemns her suggestion as 'damn cold-blooded', yet Ro stands by her recommendation. There is no evidence of anyone still alive in the drive-section and she brusquely reminds Troi of the

seriousness of their position. "By not separating the ship now you could be responsible for all our deaths."

My impression of Ro Laren is one of gritty determination. She appears to have developed a deeply entrenched survival instinct that fuels a strongly forceful personality. Personal revelations about her childhood memories and the guilt she carries regarding her feelings toward a father she considered weak, all lead to a deeper understanding of the character.

I will admit to only seeing the character in the two episodes I have mentioned, but I will venture to say that, in my opinion, the character of Ensign Ro Laren has a lot to offer TNG. If the writers' consequent development follows the same line of care and attention with which they devote to characters such as Picard, Riker and Data, I believe Ro could go a long way. Yet I think it is more realistic to expect the kind of incompetent mish-mash they dished out to Tasha Yar, never quite knowing what to do with her.

☆☆☆☆

## FAMILIES ON STARSHIPS

by Sheila Clark

I think I commented on this point way back in the very early days of IDIC, when we had relatively few members, and since Gloria Fry (N/L23) has brought it up again, it could possibly do with being restated.

I tend to agree with her, though my reasoning is a little different.

Not everyone wants children, and I believe that anyone who enters Starfleet - which Gene always intended as an exploratory rather than a military organisation - has to be someone with 'itchy feet'; someone (who probably doesn't have many relatives to start with) on whom the ties of family sit lightly. Someone who probably does not want the tie of children

(whether or not (s)he wants the tie of having a mate), at least until (s)he reaches an age when (s)he is no longer considered by Starfleet as young enough for active space-faring duty. (I imagine that there would be an upper age limit beyond which crew are no longer assigned to Starships, but rather to Starbase duty - though that doesn't prevent young personnel being assigned there as well).

This would make the subject of children on board pretty academic, though I admit accidents can happen if there are married couples on board. For single crew I would think contraceptive shots would be mandatory.

However, assume a situation in which there were children on board; all ages from new-born to late teens, like Wesley who is working to go to the Academy. Let's forget what actually happened in TNG and consider a possible alternative scenario - one that was, I believe, considered while TNG was in the planning stages. Gene's Starfleet was not a military organisation, it was primarily an exploratory one, and explorers, by the very nature of their calling, are often out of touch with 'civilisation' for long periods. What happens if the ship is sent on a long-distance exploratory mission, one that takes them into completely unexplored territory and out of reach of Federation... let's say amenities, like Starbases, for several years.

The children are growing up, aren't they? What happens to the ones who are 16+ when the ship heads into the unknown? Are they shipped off at that age to distant grandparents, uncles and aunts or even big brothers or sisters on Earth - relatives they probably barely know - because they will be finished basic schooling before the ship returns and they will have to seek further training or employment depending on their aptitudes - or are they left on the ship? And if they are, what happens to them? If they want a position in Starfleet, they could train on the job (like Wesley) until they could finally get to the Academy; but what about the ones who don't want a Starfleet career? Do they just hang around the rec rooms, probably making a nuisance of themselves because they're bored, with nothing available on the ship for them to do? Stay in education? Are the teachers on the ship qualified to teach on to University standard? What about the non-academic minds among them? Not all the children of intelligent parents want an academic career or even have the intelligence to pursue one. I can easily envisage a growing band of unemployed (or even redundant because of youngsters-in-training) on the ship, with all the problems that result from that.

Then of course there's the situation presented in *The Bonding*. Marla Astor is killed on away team duty, leaving her already fatherless son Jeremy without relatives on board the *Enterprise*. O.K., Wor-

semi-adopts the boy in the Klingon bonding ceremony, but he must then have been shipped off back to relatives on Earth because he has never appeared again. But what would happen to children like Jeremy if the ship were already parsecs away from the nearest Starbase and heading on out at Warp 6? Who would be responsible for them?

I think the real problem does not lie in physical danger to the children so much as emotional danger. After all, how would the other children who knew Jeremy Astor react to their parents going on away team duty after Marla was killed? I think they would react with fear for their parents, fear of what would happen to them if their parents were killed - a fear they probably would not dare to express in case they worried their parents. Children can often be surprisingly protective towards their elders.

There is another point; might a child brought up from babyhood in the enclosed environment of a Starship not develop some degree of agoraphobia? He would know that the 'world' outside the ship was hostile, that it could not support life; might he not extend that 'knowledge' to everywhere outside the ship, even though he knew that away teams did land safely on planets? Such knowledge would be academic, not part of his own experience, and to try to force him to learn otherwise, by including him on an away team, would surely cause him to panic.

Then if we are to talk about keeping children with their families on the ship, what about dependent elderly relatives who, while not senile, are not quite able to look after themselves? It wasn't a point Gene made, and we haven't seen any, but logically, if there are families on board, shouldn't the parents of at least some of the working crew also be included in the civilian population? And if so, at what point does Starfleet say 'This person is too old, too senile, to be aboard a Starship'? What happens if there is nobody on Earth to take care of these elderly relatives? Are *they* just shipped off to a residential home somewhere? Isn't that in its own way just as 'bad' as dumping the kids on their grandparents? Yet - given the situation postulated above, where the ship is out of

touch for even a couple of years, what happens about the elderly whose condition deteriorates quite sharply? Is part of Sickbay turned into a geriatric unit? (To say 24th century medicine would have conquered the problems that go along with aging is begging the question.)

No - I think families on board provide major problems in several fields and that it's far more practical not to include them if there is any feasible alternative. Granted, if there are no relatives on Earth with whom they could be left, there is probably little alternative; but in that case I think Starfleet personnel with dependants for whom they are responsible and who cannot 'pass the buck' to anyone else - whether these dependants are very young or very old - would be assigned to Starbases.

There's a lot said about the automatic tie of blood, about how children fare best

with their natural parents, but I can't believe that's true. Children fare best in a stable, loving, disciplined environment. Given the above possibilities, it seems to me to be more practical to leave the children with ground-based relatives. A very young child doesn't much care who's looking after it as long as there's a loving parent figure present. I know that from personal experience. Evacuated during the first years of the war, separated from my parents, I imprinted on my grandfather who was evacuated with me. The point is that because he was there when the apron strings were cut I never missed my parents at all. So a 'Starfleet orphan' would grow up looking on his grandparents or whatever as his parents and would, I believe, have a more stable childhood with them than he would on the Enterprise with his actual parents. As for the elderly... well, we haven't been presented with that in an episode - yet. So it has to be 'off to the Old Folks' Home'...

☆☆☆☆

## CASE FOR THE DEFENCE - CHILDREN ON STARSHIPS

by Sara Lyford-Smith

Although I can understand the points Gloria Fry makes in her article (N/L 23) I cannot wholly agree with her (no offence meant). Let it never be said that a challenge was left unmet, so...

Gloria's question 1 - Have parents the right to put young children in such a precarious position?

Answer. What constitutes a precarious position? Being a well-defended, powerful, luxury class Starship whose primary function is peace and exploration? Undoubtedly the lives of the children on board do come under threat, but if we, in reality, look to our own children's lives, then are they so safe? Whether we are just taking them swimming, on a motorway, to cross a busy road, we are ever presenting a danger to them. In the future of Star Trek space travel would be the norm, acceptable, and as such parents would

probably have the choice either to wrap the children in cotton wool or let them live the new life in the new surroundings. Yes, parents have the right, if all the views have been considered and balanced, and they still feel it lies within the interest of the child to be on board - with them.

GQ2. Would any normal loving parent wish to live with the constant fear that their offspring could die at any time?

Answer. Show me any normal loving parent in our time today and I'll show you a parent who already has a deep-set fear that their child may die at any time. Don't believe me? Ask any parent who has watched their child fall, who has taken him to hospital when his temperature rises by one degree, or who, when the child is visiting away from home sits and worries every time an ambulance passes. Paranoia or nature,

spaceship or fairground, every parent's task is to worry.

GQ3. Could any parent live with the guilt of knowing that they have deliberately placed their child under threat?

Answer. No, they probably couldn't, if the child was injured or killed, but the same goes if the child remained on Earth with grandparents and then was killed by a rockslide. Cries then of, "Oh, if only they'd been with me..." I think these things come under the categories mentioned in A1 - those things to be considered before taking such a child on board.

GQ4. Could a Starship commander realistically deal with an alien menace when his ship has non-essential personnel on board?

Answer. If he considers all life of value, then *all* life is worth defending; be it 100 grannies or five crewmen, his duty would be to save all life and his ship. In this case the presence of children would possibly make his task of a more determined nature, or he might decide to try to place the children as far away from danger as possible while he and his professional crew enter battle (ie separate the saucer section).

GQ5. Could he rely on his crew in a difficult situation to obey orders they knew could cause the death of their children?

Answer. If the crew truly trusted their commander and believed in his abilities, I feel that they would probably carry out any order that he gave in a difficult situation. They might be afraid that their children could die because of it, but they would probably hope that the commander's wisdom exceeds theirs, and his commands might eventually actually save their children's lives. The Federation would probably grill all crew personnel bringing families on board thoroughly for several weeks on this point alone!

GQ6. Would a Federation which respects the rights and customs of all allow their own future members to live with such a risk?

Answer. Which is the greater risk - that of physical harm though a battle situation, or that of mental harm due to separation of family units? What example could the Federation set if they split families up for several years? The crew may actually function better having their loved ones with them, rather than letting thoughts wander when missing them. Children belong within a family, no matter what its make-up. By welcoming families and children into the Starship's larger family, it is probably creating secure and well-balanced members who may have a lot to offer in the world or space travel.

GQ7. Would Captain Picard put a young boy who had not attended the Academy on one of the most important Bridge consoles?

Answer. Not unless he felt that the young boy had both worked for and earned such a position, and not unless he, the Captain, had a complete concrete trust in this boy and his abilities. The best abilities are learned through experience, not through studying textbooks. Wesley has very special abilities that Picard has been wise enough to make full use of, rather than fall back on the 'too young, no qualifications' excuse.

GQ8. Would the highly trained Starship crew not resent such a boy genius who solves problems they cannot?

Answer. A few would, undoubtedly, but we are talking about people who deal with such an enormously wide variety of new life and abilities that as they *are* so highly trained the majority of them would soon see Wesley as he is - a valuable crew member who has a lot to offer. (This speech from someone who doesn't even *like* Wesley!!)

GQ9. Would Wesley's peers not detest him for hob-nobbing with the senior officers?

Answer. A highly intelligent child often has trouble relating to his peers. They either feel happy with much older people or the much younger, and neither group takes so readily to them! In this way, Wesley

would probably find a few enemies in each camp, but given his character and determination he would probably soon win himself friends. The people around him would already think him 'different' because of his high intellect, so being pally with officers would only be a side line to this.

GQ10. Would he be made welcome at the Academy... already an ensign when others would only be cadets?

Answer. The first few days/weeks would be the testing/proving point. Wesley would probably be singled out for jokes, remarks and suchlike, until he proved that he was 'one of the gang'. Some high achievers often deliberately do badly in class just to be accepted, but I feel that Wesley has enough confidence (boy! does he have enough confidence) to overcome this, and find his own set of friends.

So, my final conclusions...

1) One of Star Trek's biggest pluses is its message of hope for the future, and I find it encouraging to think that the Federation puts such a high priority on children that it allows them to travel on its Starships. Who knows - maybe even the banks of the future won't have steps at the front!

2) A 'what if...' What if Troi and Riker conceived a child and the Federation rule was 'No children'. Then the child would have to be cared for on Earth or Betazed away from its parents. Or Troi and the child would have to leave both the Enterprise and Riker, or if they didn't want to be apart then Riker, Troi and the child would leave the Enterprise. Although I know someone who would think this is a *great* idea, it would mean that for the sake of one rule the Enterprise has lost both a First Officer and a main Counselor.

In my opinion there is a strong case in favour of the Enterprise carrying representatives from *all* walks of life, black or white, sighted or blind, young and old alike.

☆☆☆☆

## Strong Women - A Male View

by Neil J Barrett

A number of people have been discussing the apparent lack of strong female characters in Trek (both TOS & TNG). I agree with Barbel Schmidt that a more dynamic female character is needed, not necessarily a replacement Tasha but someone who proves that women in the 24th Century are not just relegated to the caring roles. I haven't encountered Ensign Ro yet (amazingly I don't own a VCR) but I think there are other possibilities.

I would say that the strongest female character in Classic Trek was the Romulan Commander played by Joanne Linville in 'The Enterprise Incident'. Clearly, she has inspired many others since she makes no less than nine appearances in my collection of Trek books (not including fan fiction). I think the attraction of this character is that she was strong without being pseudo-male. Given

the culture of the Romulans at the time, she must have been exceptional to reach and maintain her position. In terms of the sixties mindset this was way ahead of its time.

Most of the other females in Classic Trek fall into the pattern described by Marion Pritchard even when they were alleged to be professionals and officers - take Dr Helen Noel in 'Dagger of the Mind' for example. The reason is quite simply the over-riding attitudes of the male-dominated entertainment industry. To portray a woman as intelligent would not be good for the ratings - hence it wasn't done. Consider Chris Pike's First Officer Number One - she was intelligent, efficient, attractive (well I thought so) and dropped because the sixties audience couldn't cope.

When The Next Generation came on

the scene twenty-plus years later I expected the show to reflect the changed attitudes of the late eighties. At first sight it looked as if it might but as time goes on all the good starts have fallen by the wayside. Maybe we don't have a yeoman delivering the Captain his Earl Grey, but as Eddie Yau points out, Troi's cleavage is more noticeable than her thinking.

At first sight, Tasha Yar looked very promising with her ghetto planet background. I hoped that we would see a conflict between an instinctive reaction of aggression and her Starfleet training, a balance between action and thought, the difficulty of being a military professional without losing her femininity. Unfortunately the writers missed a lot of this with the result that Tasha turned out to be the most incompetent Security Chief in the history of Starfleet.

In 'Hide and Q' an alien entity, known to be disruptive and potentially hostile, invades the bridge. Who leaps the handrail and confronts the intruder with phaser in hand? Worf. Tasha does nothing. In 'Heart of Glory' Tasha forgets to search or scan the prisoners before putting them in the brig. In the real world she would have been disciplined for this but we all know that Picard is a nice old duffer and would rather forget the whole thing since Worf saved the day with a spot of heroics anyway. Clearly, the promotion of Worf was already on the cards and the intervention of Armus in 'Skin of Evil' handily removed the need to transfer Tasha to a new position as third assistant latrine technician.

Dr Katherine Pulaski also started well but faded away. At first she was a significant improvement on the dismal Beverly Crusher; more professional, more determined and with just a hint of McCoy's acerbic tongue. Since the actress was unashamedly more mature I could believe in her as a senior officer and it was good to see her stand up to the Captain. However, as the season progressed, she began to be used as mere window dressing since she was only a doctor and not the Captain's alcohol and advice

supplier.

I would definitely like to have seen more of Selar. For other fans out there may I recommend 'Eyes of the Beholder' by A C Crispin; amongst other things it explains why she has an apparently masculine name. K'Ehleyr, I'm not so sure about. If she remained on the scene then perhaps we would have been treated to too many tales of the Worf family saga.

Shelby is a totally different prospect. I don't like her as an individual but I would have a lot more confidence with her in the centre seat during a crisis than some of the male characters. As for the Riker/Shelby combination, no thanks. In reality there would probably be too much infighting for them to be an effective team and in the writers' world we would probably get some sort of trapped on a planet or stuck in a disabled shuttlecraft situation where they slowly realised that they had totally misunderstood each other.

My solution to the lack of strong females is to introduce a semi-regular character - a woman Admiral. This would allow the appearance of a woman in a powerful position without permanently disrupting the regulars. By making the character older as well as senior we can ease the male discomfort at taking orders from a female and allow a good character actress to join the team. If she was available and affordable and willing I'd suggest Bea Arthur (Dorothy in 'The Golden Girls') for the part.

Or as a slightly more off-the-wall idea, bring back Number One! According to D C Fontana's Trek novel 'Vulcan's Glory' she was a genetically engineered individual designed to be the supreme example of her race. Thus a longer than Human lifespan is not out of the question and she would be well up the hierarchy by now. No doubt that Majel could reprise the role and we would have the bonus of losing the irrelevant Lwaxana Troi.

Comments, suggestions, criticisms - all welcome.

# THE SELDOM FEMALE IN A WORLD OF MALES

by Debbie Lee

I have recently read a most interesting article by Tom Lalli, in *The Best of the Best of Trek*, entitled *Same Sexism, Different Generation*, written about 1990, and I cheered most of the way through. Why? I thought it was me being sensitive, maybe allowing my ideas about everybody being equal get in the way of my enjoyment of *Trek*. Tom Lalli writes a marvellous article, well worth reading if you have the opportunity... He approaches the subject with a knowledge of *Classic Trek* and the first series of *TNG* that I could not possibly hope to emulate, but I hope Mr. Lalli will not mind my borrowing an extended quote to get the ball rolling, as it were.

"Few in history have communicated their personal world-view as effectively to as many people as Gene Roddenberry. His vision is of a united, future Earth free of war, poverty and injustice, whose inhabitants live well into their hundreds. The original *Star Trek* was so far ahead of its time that it (with *The Next Generation*) is STILL the only memorable television series to portray a positive future for humanity. And it is because Gene Roddenberry is such a remarkably forward-thinking man that *Star Trek's* sexism is so jarring.

"I have long considered sexism to be *Star Trek's* one great flaw. I was therefore very disappointed when *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, instead of correcting this fault, proved to be nearly as sexist as the original show."

Surely not now, as we look towards a fifth season of *ST:TNG* on video in the UK, the *Enterprise-D* with a female CMO, a beautiful woman as Counselor and, of all things in the driving seat, a female ex-con?

Well, as Tom Lalli's view of *ST:TNG* seems to end somewhere in the second series,

it would be interesting to see what he makes of the final direction of the series of the past three. Having cast my eyes in a retrospective over the four *ST:TNG* series we have enjoyed so far, my final verdict has to lie with an increasing 'thirtysomething' obsession with male relationships. We have father/son, brother/brother and mother/son... the father/son one appearing to form a particularly fascinating subject for those people responsible for deciding what finally becomes real within the *ST:TNG* universe. And so we see it repeated again and again, Picard/Wesley, Picard/Jono, Worf/Alexander, Worf/Astor, Soong/Data, Riker/father in *The Icarus Factor*... and need I say more than *Deep Space 9* to anyone who knows of major character developments with respect to that particular *Star Trek* production.

The women in the 24th century of *ST:TNG* would appear to do an Athena to get to adulthood, like the Greek goddess who popped out of Zeus' head; *ST:TNG* women are never successful daughters, sisters, or in some cases do not even manage to make 'friends' of the same sex. When you do see a mother/daughter, sister/sister relationship, it is often portrayed in an almost destructive light. Deanna Troi/Lwaxana Troi would not appear to be the most successful of relationships aboard the *Enterprise*, Tasha Yar's sister Ishara was also not a particularly successful relative. Ironically enough, the only character seen in the context of a relationship with a younger, female character is Data (Lal in *The Offspring*, Sarjenka in *Penpals*) Of course this may all change in the fifth and sixth series I have yet to see; I sincerely hope so. It says something about the show itself that maybe someone, somewhere, is happier viewing female relationships through the eyes of an inquisitive android than through the viewpoint of the strong male characters that

ST:TNG abounds with.

So now, on to the subject of strong female characters... or increasing lack of them. Beverly Crusher and Deanna Troi seem to be becoming more and more like the 'glorified extras' that heralded the demise of Denise Crosby's character, the excellent Tasha Yar. If you need a sympathetic face for a scene, you can guess the rest. This is of course with the exception of those episodes that deal mainly with these characters, my personal favourite being Remember Me, where at last Dr. Crusher gets to sit in the Captain's chair... even if it is mere minutes before 'her' Enterprise is eroded by the collapsing warp bubble. And when it was decided that a more assertive woman was called for, ignoring the fact for a moment that two already potentially assertive women had been pushed into the background, we are delivered of Ensign Ro. I have only seen one episode with Michelle Forbes as the redoubtable Ro, and... Oh dear, how many times will 'assertiveness' be confused with 'aggressiveness'? This is the ST:TNG example of an 'assertive' woman, isolated, unpopular... Need I go on? I watched the first series of ST:TNG and was heartened by the presence of Crusher, Yar and Troi. As for the second and third seasons, well, I know that Melinda Snodgrass has made herself unpopular with many due to past remarks concerning the Star Trek universe, but I can forgive her much when I recall some of the strong female characters that crop up in those episodes she has been concerned with. No fuss, no bother, they are just there... and as a result they ring true. Measure of a Man (Phillipa Louvois), Penpals (Sarjenka, a female Wesley Crusher who saves her world with the use of a radio set), Up the Long Ladder (the wonderful Rosalyn Landor as the daughter-figure-cum leader with the audacity to ask Will Riker if he doesn't like girls!), The High Ground (need I say more, whatever you may say to the politics of this episode, there is no denying the marvellous counter position between the views of Dr Crusher and the female Chief of Security of Rutia). The other snippet within Tom Lalli's article that made me howl like a banshee was the statement made by him that apparently the Next Generation Writers' Guide described

Tasha Yar and Beverly Crusher in such terms as 'Beverly's "natural walk resembles that of a strip-tease queen"'.??? So let's, for the same of equality, hope that the same colourful description has been applied to Picard's walk, or of Riker... "His natural walk resembles that of a Chippendale" (male stripper, not the chair!) hardly sums up the more usual visual image of Commander Riker as portrayed by Jonathan Frakes. Tom Lalli also made the interesting point that Star Trek discourages deviation from traditional female roles, the fact that Tasha Yar was killed off after having the audacity to flirt with Picard and seduce Data. I would include the isolation of Ro here, the manipulateness of Vash, the inflexibility of Dr Leah Brahms and Beverly Crusher's unsuccessful love life (a love life that Gates McFadden has observed as being 'imperfect')... will this woman ever get her act together and storm Fort Picard?

"Just as rare in Star Trek's universe as a mother/daughter relationship is a truly egalitarian society", and I have to agree with this statement too, the emasculating Angei One, Malcorian Society in First Contact, the Edo of Rican Three watched over by a paternalistic 'something' all echo this. Even Starfleet, which pulls Admiral Nora Satie out of retirement just so she can have a public breakdown whilst trying to stitch up Picard, who of course spearheads the 'unabashed machismo' present in ST:TNG.

In The Making of Star Trek (the TV series by Stephen E Whitfield and Gene Roddenberry, it says that the original 60s audience reaction to the character Number One ranged from 'resentment' to 'disbelief'. The answer apparently revealed a valuable principle, that although Star Trek was about the 23rd century, it was being viewed by a 20th century audience. Gene Roddenberry said himself, "I decided to wait for a 23rd century audience before I went that far again."

The wonderful Gene Roddenberry was a product of his upbringing, his time, his generation. He put a black female officer on the bridge of a 23rd century ship and sprinkled the universe with erudite, feminine Starfleet officers as women were starting to

question their expected traditional role. Hopefully we have come a long way; is it fair to expect Star Trek to have done the same? The contributors to ST:TNG, I assume, are of a similar generation to myself, similarly inspired by the TV myths of those future adventures as created by Gene Roddenberry. They were moved into the field of TV craft, I was moved to go into the fields of computers and engineering. I spend my long working day surrounded by great work colleagues, in a ratio of approximately 50:1 male to female. Then to go home and be presented with a

view of the 24th century that presents it still being... well, very male orientated, is a little deflating.

In assuming that ST:DS9 will be as successful as ST:TNG, we will then have that marvellous distinction of Star Trek being a show about the 24th century watched by a 21st century audience. Let us hope that by then the female portion of the audience will still not have reactions to Star Trek ranging from 'resentment' to 'disbelief'.

\*\*\*



M. Sadler

## THE REAL ORIGIN OF 'MAKE IT SO'

by Kathleen Glancy

The Royal Navy? The Merchant Navy? No, it was neither. It was like this.

To begin at the beginning - Sir Rupert Murgatroyd, his leisure and his riches, were not devoted to anything productive like going to cons. No, he liked to persecute witches. Once when he was burning one (as he lived in England, where witches were usually hanged, he must have got her on a charge of petty treason, ie husband-murder, as well as witchcraft) she put a curse on him. Each heir who held the title (a baronetcy) must commit a crime a day or die.

It was a most precise curse. It fell on whoever held the title whether he held it rightfully or not, and the crime had to be a deliberate act - someone who was usurping his elder brother's title but didn't know it was

not spared his daily crime. Such was the case, some centuries after the curse, with Sir Despard Murgatroyd. His elder brother Ruthven, believed by him to be dead, had sneaked off and disguised himself as a peasant. Despard, as one of his crimes, seduced and abandoned a girl called Margaret. At least, W.S Gilbert (who chronicled these events and had them set to music by his colleague Sullivan) doesn't say so in so many words. But Margaret claims Despard 'gave me an Italian glance and made me his' and subsequently Despard admits to having been a very abandoned person. By Gillbertian logic he was probably an abandoning person too. At any rate, Margaret, as was the done thing for seduced and abandoned girls in the melodramas Gilbert was satirising, went mad.

But hold - Ruthven, in circumstances too complex to go into here, was found and made to resume his title. Despard, a virtuous person now, made an honest woman of Margaret. Only one crumpled rose-leaf (yes, Linda, I know that's Utopia Ltd, not Ruddigore) marred their happiness - she was still, as she admits herself, a little mad and generally silly. She is prone to fits of hysteria and threats of violence. ('Shall I fly at him? Shall I tear him limb from limb? Shall I rend him asunder?') All is not lost, though, there was a word which would instantly restore Margaret to sanity, a word of deep significance to her. That word was Basingstoke. Don't ask. It's never explained why. She was *mad*, after all.

Now we come to the crux of our tale. Let us eavesdrop on a few conversations. After one of Margaret's outbursts -

Despard: Margaret, if you don't Basingstoke at once I shall be seriously angry.

Margaret: Basingstoke it is.

Despard: Then make it so.

And again, after the threats recorded above (the person being threatened was Ruthven) Margaret invited Despard to say the word and she would carry them out.

Despard: Basingstoke!

Margaret: Basingstoke it is.

Despard: Then make it so.

Ruthven attempted to use this method of stopping Margaret, who was weeping uncontrollably, but didn't get it quite right!

Ruthven: Birmingham, you know, Birmingham.

Margaret: It's Ba - Ba - Basingstoke (sobbing)

Ruthven: Basingstoke! Of course it is - Basingstoke!

Margaret: Then make it so.

It is clear that 'make it so' was a much-used saying in the Murgatroyd family. Now let us travel down through the centuries. Sometime between the original series of Star Trek and TNG, Starfleet were revising their terminology. The person chairing the committee working on this was Admiral Murgatroyd, the descendent of Despard and Margaret. (The family curse had long since been resolved by a most ingenious paradox - that's from the Pirates of Penzance and not Ruddigore as I know perfectly well, so don't bother writing in, Linda) When seeking a suitable form of words for confirming an order, what would be more natural than for him to hit on the words used so often in the family? He recalled vaguely that the words had also been used in some ancient Navy or other, which made them all the more suitable. His committee agreed.

Admiral Murgatroyd's attempt to have all Starfleet personnel conditioned to respond to the code-word Basingstoke by becoming instantly very calm was not so successful, however; it was strenuously opposed by one Admiral Chekov who convinced Starfleet that a little bit of panic was not necessarily a bad thing and could stop you getting old before your time.

(Anyone wishing to verify the quotations in this article should consult the libretto of the Gilbert and Sullivan operetta Ruddigore.)

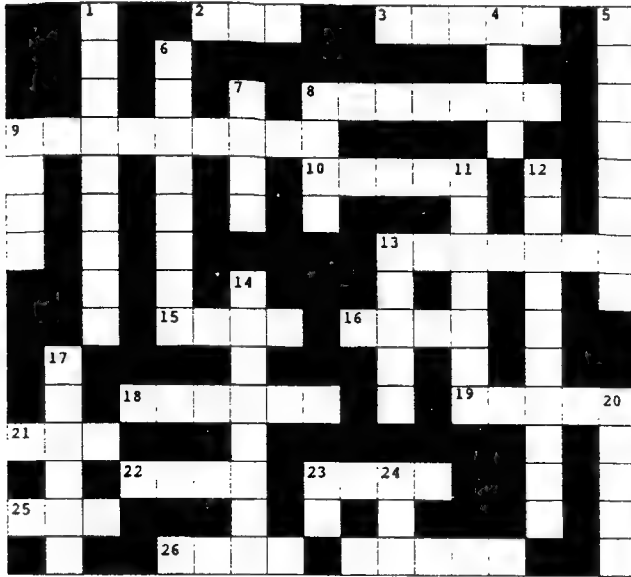
☆☆☆☆



M. Sadler

# STAR TREK CROSSWORD

by Alex. Pidd



## Clues

### Across

2. Vulcan Ritual: 3, 3 (& 21A)
3. This side of Paradise with her: 5
8. Gothos had this Squire: 7
9. Saavik's favourite test: 9, 4 (& 23A)
10. This Ex-Captain likes Roman-style games: 5
13. Spock is this officer: 7
15. Kim Darby played this child: 4
16. 11D leader in Day of the Dove: 4
18. Janice is one of these: 6
19. It thought Kirk its creator: 5
21. See 2 Across.
22. Kirk & Uhura had 1st inter-racial one on US TV: 4
23. See 9 Across.
25. Romulan birthday present: 3
26. He likes his women: 4
27. She's got the mark of Gideon: 5

### Down

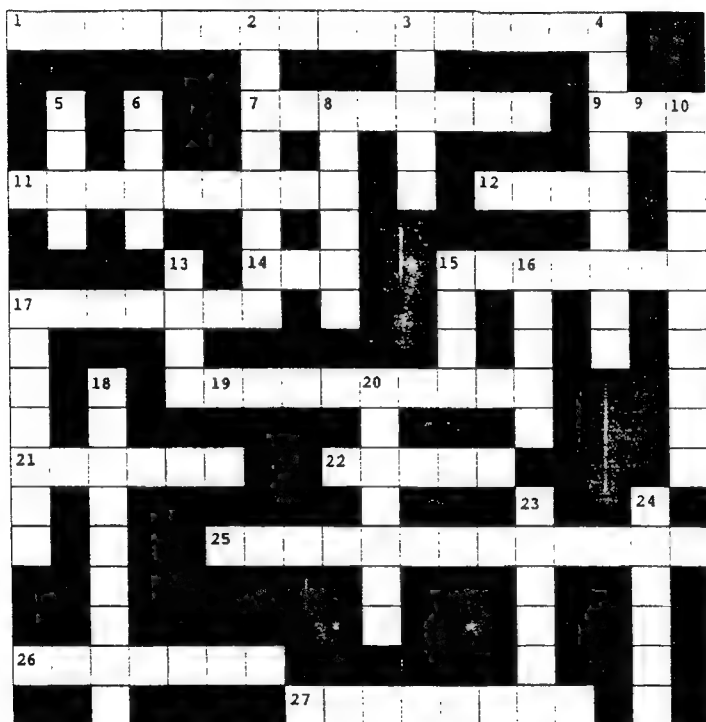
1. A useful manoeuvre: 9
4. See 14 Down
5. 12 Down goes down the tube: 8
6. Inventor of Duotronics: 8
7. Feline friend of Gary Seven: 4
8. Enterprise goes back in this for Assignment Earth: 4
9. Mr. Singh: 4
11. This race have an Empire: 7
12. Mr. Scott: 10
13. The Final Frontier: 5
14. Where 9 Across set sail for: 8, 4 (& 4D)
17. 10 Across commanded this Starship: 6
20. Guest Star Ms. Muldaur: 5
23. 6 Down also invented this: 2
24. This shirt can damage your health: 3

# NEXT GENERATION CROSSWORD

by Gloria Rigg

Edited by Helen White

**N.B.** There are seven letters in the answer to 21 across, hence the second square in that space on the grid is divided by two, to allow the answer to fit properly.



## CLUES

### ACROSS

1. To be continued? (4,2,4,6)
7. She said, 'it never happened' (5,3)
9. Behind, at the back of (3)
11. The first ship that the 'Picard Manoeuvre' was performed. (9)
12. Klingon in the bridge (4)
14. The Counselor's child (3)
15. Photon weapon (7)
17. What Castillo's mother calls him (7)
19. The First Lady (10)

21. Daughter of the Fifth House (7)
22. The planet fabled to mend a broken heart (5)
25. Beverly's boy (6,7)
26. see 13 down
27. 'Take your places' (7)

### DOWN

2. The Counselor's heritage - well, half (8)
3. Mister Miller, who would have Deanna's hand (5)
4. The crew's employer? (9)
5. My favourite android (4)

6. Their ships are cube-shaped (4)
8. The Counselor's countenance? (6)
10. The up-front relaxation centre (3,7)
13. (and 26 across) Beverly's replacement (4,7)
15. Counselor's surname (4)
16. Number One (5)
17. The ship that brought Beverly's replacement (7)
18. The Captain's detective (5,4)
20. Set them to stun (7)
23. She 'forked' Q's hand (6)
24. Promoted to Chief Engineer from Navigator (6)

Solution on page 86

☆☆☆☆

## THE ENTERPRISE CHRISTMAS GIFT CATALOGUE



### TO WEAR

Go boldly in our latest T-shirt, made from 100% non-chlorine bleached cotton. Available in Arcturian midnight black, embellished with all your favourite Class M planets. Designed exclusively for Enterprise Enterprises plc/ One size, fits no-one.

The most versatile item in your wardrobe, our ever-popular Star Trek sweatshirt, comfortably roomy and now available in three great winter colours. Choose from command gold, science blue of security red (please state colour when ordering). Or why not buy two and save £2.00!!! Unbeatable value!

His'n Hers luxurious white towelling wraps. A stylish alternative to Fleet uniform. Wonderfully thick and generously proportioned. Perfect for that trip to San Francisco.

A pure wool hat, all the way from Ekos. Just the thing to keep those ears warm, AND safe from Nazis. Traditionally styled. Colours may vary.

A snug pair of slippers, a durable gift for that special Captain in your life. May vary slightly in size.

Something to keep the bridge entertained - musical socks. Just expose them to moisture and they'll play 'I'll Take You Home Again Kathleen'. A must for the

### officers' party.

Soft to the touch but smart enough for formal occasions, our silk evening shirt should keep the most choleric doctor from getting hot under the collar.

Our new gravity-G sweater is beautifully warm yet surprisingly light. Be sure to have one before visiting Sarpeidon. Made of Zakdir wool from Ceres, exclusively for Enterprise Enterprises.

This pretty yet practical vest, tastefully embroidered by a small co-operative on Archon, gives full protection against spores, thorns and other xeno-biological projectiles.

You really liked our Palamas Grecian nightdress, traditionally styled for a relaxed fit, so here it is again. Capture the mood in virulent pink, day-glo orange or shrieking red.

### FOR HER

Relax with essential oils of Chloratheragen Derivative - an exquisite cut-glass jar containing your favourite fragrance. Will add that touch of sheer luxury to showertime.

A set of exquisite delicately scented pure vegetable soaps from Talos 4.

Our new Empathy range of soothing moisturising products will erase the strains

of the day. A gem of a gift for today's woman.

Why not try the Mudd's Women aromatherapy range?

The Nancy Hedford total body programme - you could be a whole new woman.

This beautiful make-up pouch (designs may vary) lovingly handcrafted by natives of Betelgeuse is perfect for carrying your favourite mascara on landing parties.

Vulcan miniatures. These adorable characters, only 5 cm high, light up when you waggle their ears and play no less than four seasonal ditties:

The Only Items that I Require for Xmas are a Set of Frontal Ondontological Molars;

Rudolph the Sub-Arctic Ungulate who is Suffering from an Inflamed Proboscis;

I Perceived my Parent Embracing a Mythic Figure of Norse Legend;

Furnish the Recreation Room with Boughs of Ilex Aquifolium.

Brighten up your image with your super new ethnic range of 'beads and rattles':

a) Exotic Ceti Eel Earrings (Government Health Warning: these earrings could seriously damage your health. Take special care when inserting).

b) Lovable George and Gracie studs.

c) Eye-catching Horta earrings; gleaming silver nodules stunning enough to die for.

d) The original chunky zenite, a classic choice.

Or bring a touch of sophistication to evenings in the Rec Room with these matching asteroid earrings and necklet, attractively presented in a velvete drawstring pouch.

## HOUSEHOLD

Bring distinction to your galley with our classic yet useful tea-towel made from 100% recycled fibres in a collective on Altair. IDIC design, white on black. Simple yet elegant.

Now here's a really clever idea. Astonish your colleagues with our Salt'n Pepper cruet set, fashioned entirely from obsolete surgical instruments.

Bring a little greenery into your life. A rare chance to experience the enchanting plomik plant. (This item will be despatched direct from our suppliers on Vulcan. Please allow up to 28 light years for delivery.)

Grow your own Mahko Root. Kit includes growing medium, seeds and full instructions.

Our compact boot tidy is designed to hang neatly inside a Jeffries Tube. A simple solution to a classic storage problem.

Organise that cabin clutter with this wonderfully handy under the bed tidy, intricately carved from a non-endangered hardwood. Hinged for easy access.

Versatile all-purpose Tholian sewing kit. Mend the Captain's shirt (again!) or repair the ozone layer.

Our fast-acting coffee beams, harvested by a women's co-operative on Scalos, really get you going in the morning.

Koon-ut-kal-if-fee bellchimes. An unusual and intriguing alternative to door buzzers.

Here's yet another ingenious idea. Our 100% Rigellian linen table cloth has instructions on how to make the Vulcan salute - absolutely invaluable.

This unusual piece will be a focal point in cabin or garden - a faithful reproduction of a Vulcan Firepot. Order while stocks last.

An old favourite in a new guise. Bring amusement to the bridge with this inflatable biodegradable crumpet.

Our colourful two-in-one umbrella protects you from ion storms AND deflects small asteroids. You'll wonder how you ever managed without it.

## STATIONERY

Alien Antics slimline calendar.

Light Year Planner

Interstellar Diary, millenium to view.

Diary of a Denebian Lady notelets: what could be more charming than this set of ten individual reproductions of an early 20th century design based on creatures of the Denebian countryside?

A sturdy pair of striking Gorn bookends, a novel gift.

New this year - our low-priced Way to Eden gift wrap brings you the luxury without the sting.

## AND THE CHILDREN SHALL NEED

Our Dohlman doll cries real tears - watch out, dad!

A set of brightly painted nesting Klingons - what could be more festive?

Probe your deck for biological infestations with this intriguing mini-Nomad. Not suitable for children under three.

Cut-out Kollos cardboard mask, real life-saver when you can't think what to get.

Oxmyx Automobile. Drive that crazy car. Takes 5 1.5 batteries (not supplied).

An adorable sehlat of your very own to cherish forever. A truly personal gift.

What child of any age could resist our appealing tribble? Just 18 in high.

The Miri tricycle. A gift guaranteed to last throughout childhood... well, nearly.

A lifelike model of the Botany Bay. Easy and great fun to make. (Kit contains realistically detailed laminated wood, instructions, sandpaper and mounting stand.)

Bumper stationery pack, overprinted

with a Romulan Yuletide greeting. Guaranteed non-toxic.

Our Alternative Universe jigsaw, beautifully reproduced in full colour, will keep them entranced in a world of their own for hours.

Make-Your-Own Shuttlecraft - no glue, no mess, no fuss; simply fit together and Hey Presto!

Keep them absorbed with the Triacus Xmas Chant Book.

Forget Mornington Crescent. Once you've played the exciting new game of Fizzbin you're hooked for life. Attractively packaged in Klingfilm.

A fresh look at an old favourite. Our Lokai-Bele draughts set adds a whole new dimension to your game.

## FOR HIM

Here's something really different! Small enough to hide unobtrusively on your person, this little device lets out a warning beep if an alien life form is about to take over your body. Don't be caught out - be safe this winter.

New from Rigelius V - a mini calculator that lets you plot spacial interphases immediately. Saves all that tedious hanging around in space.

They may look like ordinary boxer shorts, but these attractively designed garments contain a secret - they can detect androids. A useful gift for particularly susceptible men.

Don't get embarrassingly lost; our easy to carry compass is bound to come in handy, eh, Mr Sulu?

Our miniaturised phaser-styled heat key means you need never be shut out of your frozen shuttlecraft again. Also heats coffee.

Stun him with a novelty shaving cream

container styled as a hand axe reminiscent of the lade people of Athos 5. Truly a knockout gift.

Always welcome - hair care set for him with essence of kevas and trillium.

A generous measure of Romulan Ale is an intricately designed presentation Xmas bottle. Will bring him delight (and possibly

pain in the morning if he drinks it all at once!)

This ingenious solar powered pocket transporter repair kit is bound to be invaluable.

Happy Christmas

Chris Blenkarn



## TO BE OR NOT TO BE (A HOLIDAY), THAT IS THE CONVENTION!

(With passing reference to addiction and post-con depression)

by Anne Rogers

Last year I went on holiday. In fact, for the past few years I've been on holiday, not always to exotic places, but on holiday nonetheless.

I have been the travelling member of my family for some time, having visited 26 countries since 1984. Last year I set off alone to visit some friends in California. Last year was also the year that I had fallen flat on my face into Trek fandom. Therefore two of the highlights of my Californian trip were participating in Universal Studio's Star Trek Adventure (extremely silly but great fun - I'll always remember someone saying 'Is there a Klingon called Scott here?' while we were all waiting to do our bit of 'acting!') and finding a shop which sold an overwhelming array of Star Trek goodies all under the one roof.

Anyway, I digress. The point is that I used to have holidays. I used to go away to get some rest, peace and tranquillity. To do things and go places at my own pace and when I feel like it, read a good book and catch up on sleep, etc.

Now I go to Star Trek conventions. I

don't quite know why, but I've never managed to equate conventions with holidays, though I'm away from home, doing something I enjoy, relaxing (well, most of the time, I think...) These things I would say fall within my own personal definition of the word 'holiday'. On the other hand, I may never see anything beyond the door of the hotel, get too little sleep and spend most of the time running to a programme. These do not fit into my definition of 'holiday'.

Star Trek conventions do however encroach on one's holiday from the point of view of cost (some fans could possibly do it all, ie two weeks in Canada plus various conventions, but not many, I suspect). There is also the consideration of taking time off work. Of course I appreciate the fact that there are quite a number of fans who do not have a job for various reasons, and for them the question of time off is generally different, but the cost side becomes a very major issue.

However well priced a convention is, they are always expensive to attend by the time you've paid your registration fee and your hotel bill and got there in the first place.

This is not a dig at any committee, they work very hard to provide good conventions and have lots of expenses to cover in order to do so. It is just a fact. In addition to the base costs of attending, there are also things like food and drink (and of course the dealers' rooms, and even auctions) waiting for your cash.

Taking time off work obviously eats into your holiday time. Apart from the basic fact of taking time to cover the actual event, I often end up taking the day afterwards as well, in order to travel or to recover (!) as necessary. I personally feel that my boss has the right to expect me not to collapse at my desk the day I return to the office after a couple of days' 'holiday'! (For those made of sterner stuff this may not be a factor for consideration!)

So what is it about conventions which keeps people coming back for more? Even coming for more several times a year, which is when the real clash with one's 'holiday' time happens.

The trouble with conventions is that they are addictive. I think that post-con depression has a lot to do with this.

After a great couple of days at a con, denting the bank balance severely and sleeping for about two hours a night, you go home. Then it strikes. For some there is immediate post-con trauma, while for others it takes a day or two to set in, but for most people, it's a fact - sooner or later you'll be afflicted. It is at this point, while your system is at its lowest ebb, that the urge to work out when you can attend the next one is strongest.

People are afflicted with post-con depression for various reasons, depending on why they attend conventions in the first place. For me, I first went to a convention in order to see videos of both Classic and Next Gen. Trek which I hadn't seen before. After the first day I was reeling, and decided there and then that watching TV all day just was not my scene. Now I tend to watch chunks at a time, maybe a few episodes that I especially want to see, or an old favourite that it's fun to

watch in the convention atmosphere. Either way, that's how I enjoy it, which is, after all, the whole point of the exercise.

The thing I really enjoy about conventions though is the social side. I like catching up with friends, and you always make new friends at each convention as well. Getting the chance to talk about Trek without the usual reaction of Those Who Know No Better is fun, and it's amazing the variety of subject matter!

I also like to hear the guest talks and am generally interested to hear each other's insights into the Trek Universe.

At most conventions there is quite a variety of things on the programme, so there's usually something for everyone, no matter what their pet passion is!

Generally (obviously) British conventions are smaller than those in the States and have fewer leading stars on the guest lists. However, if you look down the convention lists in any club mag, you'll soon see that we do have a good range of guests, though they are scattered across the country at various venues. Personally I am glad of the smaller, more friendly conventions we have here - they're plenty big enough for me! In general there's been a good atmosphere at all of the UK cons I've attended and I hope British fans will continue to build on the basis already established.

My own feeling is that we'd lose something of the fun and friendly feeling of our cons if we try to run them the American way. I do not make any criticism of the way cons are run in the States - their own cons are highly successful, but I feel that there is sometimes a tendency (which I've come across once or twice recently) for folk to grumble just a bit because they see one area they like elsewhere and forget to see all the good things they already enjoy here.

Once you are a Star Trek fan who has reached the point of joining clubs, and is therefore reading the newsletters and so on, it is very hard for you not to feel the pull of the convention. Reading the con reports just

fuels this fire.

You will begin to want to hear for yourself the talks of Those Who Know about the show. Reading is not enough. Then you go to a club meeting or a mini-con, and made a few friends who say, "Are you going to the con in Outer Mongolia this year? We could meet up there." So the pull gets stronger.

You think, I'll go to one, and see what it's like. You look through the con lists to see which is the nearest and set off with uncertain anticipation, booked in for one night, hedging your bets...

AHA - Gotcha!! Another one in the net! Some escape the pull, some decide (sorry, but it must be said) they don't like it, but not many get away...

For most of us, once we've started attending conventions, that's it, they're in the diary to stay. So I guess in the end there are only a few options.

- 1) To attend fewer cons so you can afford to decide on a holiday later as well.
- 2) Convince yourself that conventions ARE

holidays (after all you're not stuck in your normal routine, are you?) and redefine the word 'holiday'.

- 3) Get organised so that a convention and a holiday connect (something I've been trying to do all year, but failed to manage up to this point!)

- 4) Book your holiday eight months in advance, so that it's decided! Then book your conventions round your holiday.

- 5) If you can afford it, go on the Holiday Trek to Cyprus, or hope for something similar, and possibly cheaper (especially for those not going as part of a group) next year.

Of course, for quite a few of us, it already feels like we spend half our lives juggling things round (ie sports, other hobbies (shock, horror!), time with friends, etc.) so that it all fits into the time available. After all, we've all got a life other than - or perhaps, as well as - Star Trek, haven't we?

Hmm! So, I'll see you at the next con, then! Who needs a decent holiday anyway? I know I've got a tent somewhere... but I'm booking before Christmas for next year's holiday. (For now, I'll just have a nervous breakdown instead...)

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

## CLARK'S CONVENTION LAWS OR MURPHY'S LAW - AS APPLIED TO CONS

by Sheila Clark

A con is always too far north, south, east or west for somebody; and the people who always travel furthest usually complain least about the venue.

The hotel management will change between the initial contract being signed and the actual con.

The train/bus bringing you to the con will arrive at least an hour late.

People coming by car will always be held up by roadworks.

Directions that say "One way" or "Drive

straight through" come to a sudden end with a No Entry sign or a T-junction.

When the need arises to ask for directions (see above) there is never anyone available to ask - or else the only person around is a stranger there too.

The one thing you find you positively need at the con is the one thing you positively forgot to bring. Like enough money.

If you need a trolley, the hotel doesn't have one available.

The hotel never has enough lifts.

The lift is always going in the opposite direction to the way you're going.

If you have luggage the lift is always full.

The lift will never stop at your floor due to a hitherto undetected malfunction.

Your hotel room is usually at the end of a loooooooooong corridor.

The programme usually runs late, due to unforeseen but logical circumstances.

If a programme item *is* on time, half of the people who want to see it will miss the beginning because they expect it to run late.

The dealers' room sells out of the very thing you want two minutes before you get there.

Cheap con food stops being served two minutes before you get there.

The bar closes two minutes before you get there.

The bar opens an hour after you want a drink.

The restaurant opens an hour after you want to eat.

Hotel staff anywhere know only one phrase connected with Star Trek - Beam me up, Scotty.

If there are mundanes in the hotel, they know only one phrase connected with Star Trek - Beam me up, Scotty.

Someone from the media will arrive looking for a local fan wearing costume... hoping to find one who wears costume *all* the time.

At some point during the weekend there will be an unauthorised fire drill. (If you're lucky, this will be before bedtime.)

A con committee's first comment after the closing ceremony is "Never again!" Their second is, "When do we run the next one?"

All con committees perform wonders over and above the call of duty in arranging conventions while (we hope) retaining their sanity.

☆☆☆☆

## STAR TREK MOVIES - A PERSONAL RESPONSE

by Douglas Burke

Classic Star Trek never really grabbed me as anything special until about five years ago.

I was idly looking through the video library's selection of tapes and saw a copy of Star Trek - The Motion Picture.

On an impulse, I rented it. Initially, I didn't think much. Too long... too boring... nor enough action... mostly incomprehensible. About the only thing I liked at that stage was the opening sequence with the K'Tinga Class Klingon ships and that wonderful music behind it. Otherwise, I was strictly nonimpressed.

However, it intrigued me enough that I didn't turn off Star Trek II - The Wrath of Khan when it came on television. Within the first ten minutes, I was hooked. It had everything; a brilliant and understandable plot, lots of action and suspense, a really nasty villain, breathtaking special effects (the Genesis planet simulation and the battle in the Mutara Nebula), top rate score and the bravery to kill one of the major characters. This really impressed me, and the top-notch acting made me really feel for Kirk and Saavik when they lost Spock.

After that, there was no stopping me. I was equally captivated by Star Trek III - The Search for Spock. I found it hard to

contemplate how anything could come up to the standard of ST II -TWOK, but this film managed it, becoming so much more than a mere sequel. Leonard Nimoy's directing was spot on, and William Shatner and DeForest Kelley gave sterling performances. These things, coupled with another cracking James Horner score and another piece of bravery; destroying the Enterprise, made this film one of the best in the series.

Hearing that Leonard Nimoy would be repeating his role as director for *The Voyage Home*, I determined to go to the cinema to see the film. I have heard a lot of criticism about this film. Such criticism, in my view, is totally unfair.

One of the things by which I judge a film is its ability to entertain me and make me happy; to lift me up when I'm down. This film really succeeded in doing that. I came out of the cinema with a smile on my face. Not only had it the good acting that I had come to expect, but also an environmentally friendly plot which I thought was highly inventive, great fun and in keeping with the philosophy of Star Trek. Wonderful music, just the right balance of drama and comedy, satisfying special effects and the truly happy ending sold me on this film.

It was at this point, with extra insight into the Star Trek universe, deeper knowledge of the characters and more maturity, that I went back to *The Motion Picture*.

My response to it the second time around was so different from the first that I thought I had watched a different film. What I love about this film are the concepts behind it. I can now appreciate and understand what it has to say about the Human condition, the nature of love (the expert juxtaposition of Decker's love for Ilia and Kirk's love for the Enterprise), and the questions we all ask about our existence. I could not appreciate those things before because I was too busy expecting action, space battles, phasers blasting and so forth, that I was not willing to accept what it was trying to do. I also realised that it had a wonderful score overall, and not just in the opening sequence (which I

still believe to be one of the most breathtaking opening sequences in SF film history, rivalled perhaps only by *Star Wars* and *Blade Runner*).

There are some things about the film that I still think could be improved, for example the overlong effects sequences inside the cloud, and the uniforms.

Did anyone else spot the continuity error at the end when Spock and McCoy are standing on the Bridge? They are both wearing those silly away team jackets. Spock has an orange armband and McCoy has a green one. In the next shot, the armband colours are reversed! I suppose everyone knew that already...

All these fantastic movies made me naturally willing to go again to the cinema when *Star Trek V - The Final Frontier* came out.

I went expecting to see the best yet. What I got was extremely disappointing. A lot was said about this film at Contagion in Glasgow, and most of it I consider to be fair comment. The lines and actions the actors had to perform were not, in my opinion, true to their characters. I think the problem was that William Shatner was not prepared to take his character or anyone else's seriously. In the film, Kirk starts on holiday, and it seems to me that Shatner's acting like he is still on holiday all through the film. We are not seeing the real Kirk up there on the screen, but a pale image that is nothing like our beloved Captain. Would Kirk really shout "Shoot him" when confronted with Sybok? Would the Kirk we know really engage in an infantile "Have not, have so" verbal slanging match with Spock?

The 'humour' in *The Final Frontier* was, unlike *The Voyage Home*, at the expense of the characters; Sulu and Chekov, the best helmsman and navigator in Starfleet, lost... Scotty banging his head against a support beam... Uhura doing a naked dance, etc.

Also, 78 decks in the saucer section turbolift shaft of the Enterprise is a blatant

example of how technical accuracy was compromised for a cheap laugh, and I still maintain that the chicken in the soundtrack was, face it, a really stupid idea.

I came out of the theatre feeling let down. Was the series really going to end on such a low note?

Therefore it was with mixed feelings that I heard about The Undiscovered Country. However, these were dispelled with I heard that Nicholas Meyer would be directing. I personally think that The Wrath of Khan is the best in the series, and if anyone could get the characters back on course after the travesty of The Final Frontier, he could. I also liked the reference to Hamlet; one fantastic play.

ST VI really impressed me. Meyer had managed to get the characters back to being themselves, it had a good story line, great special effects, and it was pleasing to see Sulu get the promotion to Captain.

I really enjoyed this film, which had some wonderful Star Trek moments and genuine humour. I especially enjoyed the opening sequence, the Klingon Court and the trek across the Ice Planet. it gave the film the feel of an epic; something really special.

One thing I didn't like was the fact that Starfleet was going to decommission the

Enterprise. This does not ring true. According to that wonderful reference work Mr Scott's Guide to the Enterprise, the USS Ti-Ho, renamed the Enterprise NCC 1701-A, was a brand new ship built fresh from the keel up. Does Starfleet really want to decommission her after she has only had two adventures?

Also I thought the crew got their meals through food synthesisers. The idea of the Starship galley doesn't really work in my opinion.

I do think it was a good idea to have the characters retiring, for although it saddens me, it saddens me even more to have critics bashing the crew for 'oldly going' and all that rubbish.

However, I would really love to see a Next Generation movie. The fantastic quality of the TV series makes one wonder what could be achieved with the budget of a big film, and the marvellous cast that the show has got.

I hope that this will come to pass. Since The Undiscovered country was such a success, hopefully we will not have to wait too long.

In any case, it's been great fun so far. Let's hope that the best is indeed yet to

☆☆☆☆

## NEW ZINES

SciTpress

**ENTERPRISE - LOG ENTRIES 88** - A First Contact mission, with Kirk and a Records Officer beaming down alone to handle the talks; Kirk, Spock & McCoy are taken prisoner by a planetary government; Kirk must come to terms with Miramanee's death; some of the crew want rid of Spock - and think McCoy supports them; Arena - the Gorn's-eye-view; Kirk is given orders that

require him to be in two places at the same time - and there's only one way he can do it; and others. U.K. £4.00

**MAKE IT SO 11** - A novel, **POPPIES**, by Gaile Wood. The Enterprise has been called to Injaab, which is trying to break away from the Ferengi... but some of the Injaabi are happy with the status quo. Dr. Crusher has the job of tracking down what is poisoning many Injaabi women. U.K. £3.90

☆☆☆☆

# BOOK/VIDEO/AUDIO/GAME REVIEWS

**DEATH COUNT** by L A Graf Titan 37  
£3.99

Reviewed by Sheila Clark

The Enterprise is being inspected by Federation efficiency auditors, who have virtually instantly made themselves unpopular with Kirk and the section heads, and is given a surveillance-of-Orion-borders mission so that the auditors can see the crew in action. Almost immediately, however, things start to go wrong; there are equipment malfunctions and murders; Orion ships challenge them; and sabotage.

This is a fast-moving story, full of excitement and action. As a mystery it is perhaps a little less than completely successful (or too successful, depending on how you look at it); although it becomes clear quite early on that there is an intruder on board, the clues that ought to be there to identify him - if only in hindsight - didn't seem to be; I didn't find myself saying, "Of course! We were told earlier that..." as the plot unfolded.

Much of the story revolves around Chekov, Sulu and Uhura, and it's nice to see them being given good 'parts', so to speak... though I'm just a little doubtful about Chekov's resilience after being injured.

For Chekov and Sulu fans in particular, this one's a must. I'd give it 9 out of 10 - it's definitely a good read.

**WAR DRUMS** by John Vornholt Pocket & Titan TNG23 £3.99 Reviewed by Sheila Clark

Selva is a lush, forested world colonised by a small group of Humans. The colony is being raided by savages who, it turns out, are a small group of young Klingons, the oldest about 16, who are the survivors of a crash some ten years previously.

A landing party consisting of Worf, Troi, Ro and Data is left on Selva when the

Enterprise is called away on an urgent mission.

Ro manages to befriend the Human Security Chief and his daughter Myra, a precocious 12-year-old girl who is interested in biology. Myra's studies have led her to a conclusion that none of the adult colonists will listen to (although Ro does). Meanwhile, Worf, Data and Troi are trying to befriend the Klingons.

Unfortunately, only a couple of people on each side actually want to make peace. The Human colonists would like to see the Klingon group all dead; and the 16-year-old Klingon 'leader' has been told by a 'goddess' that the Humans must die.

Then comes the catastrophe that has been waiting to happen, and in order to survive, the two groups must join forces.

It's many years since I read it, but this book seems to me to have undertones of Golding's *Lord of the Flies*. The young Klingons - the oldest only 6 when they were stranded - have grown up without the benefit of adult influence, have their own 'culture' and laws and appear to have developed their own language of drum signals. Their life is difficult, a constant struggle to find sufficient food.

The Human colonists have an attitude towards other races that seems to verge on the xenophobic. Whether there had always been an underlying xenophobia which had been brought to the surface, or whether it had developed purely as a result of the raids by the young Klingons, was not altogether clear to me - the Humans seemed to regard Ro with suspicion, although they did not know the Bajorans. The raids had certainly consolidated the anti-Klingon attitude of the Human colonists.

The story moves well enough, but I'm not sure I appreciate a tale where pretty well everyone is motivated by hatred. Nor am I totally convinced by the about-turn of

attitudes by the end. I can just about see the two groups forgetting their differences during the struggle to survive, but beyond that? Not really, given the depths of hatred portrayed by at least some of the characters.

It's certainly a book that Klingon fans will like, and despite my reservations about the ending, I'd give it 8 out of 10.

**WAR DRUMS** by John Vornholt (No. 23)

Reviewed by Sara Jackson

On the planet Selva the Enterprise crew find themselves cast in the unwelcome role of peace mediators when violent confrontation breaks out between a colony of Human settlers and a clan of young Klingon castaways sharing the only relatively stable area of this geologically active planet.

Fully expecting Captain Picard to rid them of the Klingon terrorists one way or another, the colonists are furious when he makes it clear that under Federation law the young Klingons are the ones with the legal right to be on Selva. This serves to stir up an already deadly potent mix of prejudice and hatred which is soon directed at the Enterprise' crew as well as the Klingons.

An away team comprising Worf, Data, Troi and Ensign Ro must avert a bloody massacre and at the same time deliver both factions from an unknown enemy - the planet Selva itself.

It was with little enthusiasm that I started this novel, remembering how long it took me to plough through John Vornholt's TNG debut - *Masks*. Yet, it soon became evident that the author's story-telling abilities have greatly improved since that first offering. I seldom read anything at one sitting, but *War Drums* managed to hold my attention right from chapter one. The action was competently and evenly paced with something to keep the interest there on every page.

Worf's efforts to gain the acceptance of the young Klingons and his obvious empathy for fellow orphans was well written and believable. All the characters, I found, were

acceptably portrayed and did not stray outside the bounds of the personalities that we have come to know. Ensign Ro coming across particularly well.

I have noticed that Mr Vornholt likes to add a bit of sexuality to his stories and *War Drums* is no exception.\* Here we find a young Klingon male being introduced to the pleasures of the opposite sex. In my opinion it didn't seem to make much sense, having absolutely no bearing on the plot which would have gone along perfectly happily without it. I don't really know how to explain my objections to this idea without giving a few key points away, but I'm sure you'll see what I mean if you decide to read the novel and I would recommend it.

It may seem like nit-picking but the one thing I did find irritating was the numerous text errors. Several times spaces were missed between words and sentences hiccuped slightly having not been edited properly - Pocket Books please take note.

\* Picard's brief affair with Piercing Blade in *Masks* I found quite hard to accept. I'd have thought Jean-Luc's strong sense of morality would have managed to keep his glands under control; but who am I to tell Mr Vornholt his job.

**RELICS** by Michael Jan Friedman, based on the TV episode, story and teleplay by Ron Moore Pocket \$4.99.

Reviewed by Sheila Clark

**SPOILER ALERT** - This is the story of the episode where Scotty turns up on 1701-D.

In his own time, Scott is travelling, as a civilian, on a space liner, the *Jenolen*, en route to the Norpin Five colony - which seems to be largely populated by elderly, retired people. The *Jenolen* comes across something strange - which is identified as a Dyson Sphere, an artificial construct around a sun (several AUs in diameter). While investigating the Sphere the *Jenolen* crashes; there are only two survivors, Scott and one of the crew; life support is failing and in any case there is only food and water for a very short time. Scott rigs the transporter so that

their patterns can be carried in it until someone answers the Jenoien's distress call.

However, there is no response until the 1701-D happens along, 75 years later, and by that time the other pattern has lost too much integrity for the crewman to be restored. Scott, however, is.

The 1701-D then sets out to investigate the Sphere but is trapped inside it.

I thoroughly enjoyed this story - for me it works much better than Unification (with Spock) did. The reaction of the crew to Scott is convincing, his reaction to the situation he is in is convincing, the story moves well... the only incredible thing, really, is the existence of an artificial sphere just as large as this one is. but it's easy enough to suspend disbelief. I hope that Mr. Friedman didn't add too much to the filmed story, because as it stands it looks like being in my top ten episodes. 9.5 out of 10.

**BEST DESTINY** by Diane Carey     Pocket Books \$20 (£14.99)

Reviewed by Sheila Clark

This hardback book starts just after ST VI. Ordered back to Earth for the ship to be decommissioned, Kirk is told he can take the scenic route. What should be a peaceful final voyage, however, is interrupted by a very faint distress call, followed by their detection of an antiproton flushback - something that does not occur in nature but can be caused by the explosion of a warp engine. The only occupied planet in the affected area is the archaeological colony of Faramond - which only Kirk has heard of.

It reminds him of events 45 years previously, when as a rebellious 16-year-old his father takes him on a voyage on the Enterprise, captained by Robert April; circumstances lead April, Kirk Senior, four crew and young Jimmy to head for Faramond by shuttlecraft. They never get there; the shuttlecraft is attacked by a pirate vessel.

The story of the 16-year-old Kirk is interspersed with chapters dealing with the 61-year-old Kirk's response to the present

emergency.

The story is well written and well developed, but although I found it fast-moving and interesting, I couldn't entirely agree with Ms Carey's characterisation of the young Kirk as a hate-authority school-is-boring go-your-own-way rebel. I felt it didn't entirely mesh with the facts of Kirk's character we see emerge during 79 episodes. Yet in their own way Ms Carey's 'facts' are logical and do mesh with what we know of Kirk - the juvenile rebellion (a feature of many leaders throughout history) caused by resentment of his father's absence; and various aspects of his behaviour as an adult resulting from lessons he learns in the course of the book.

There's a tendency in fandom (at least) to think of Kirk (as well as Spock) as having been pretty well the model schoolboy, hard-working and conscientious, space-crazy from a young age, with a career in Starfleet his ambition from his earliest years - perhaps in emulation of his father, about whom aired Trek tells us nothing, perhaps simply his own ambition. Ms Carey is perhaps to be congratulated in taking such a radically different view and handling it so convincingly.

**THE STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION COMPANION** by Larry Nemecek     Engale Marketing, Blackpool  
Large Format £9.99  
Reviewed by Philip Morley

This is the long-awaited sequel to The Star Trek Compendium. Like its predecessor, it gives reviews on each Star Trek (in this case TNG) episode, starting from Encounter at Farpoint (episode 1, season 1) up to Times Arrow (episode 126, season 5). Season 6 is not included, so the book will probably have to be updated.

The book itself has a very glossy colour front and back cover, and included in it are over 150 B & W photos. The book gives us an insight into how The Next Generation was created, who actually did create it, what TNG was initially intended to be like, and quotes from our late friend, Gene Roddenberry. It

gives us details on how the sets for the Enterprise were created, how different props (ie tricorders, phasers and communicators) evolved, and how the regular cast was chosen (we even see a picture of Michael Dorn without his makeup!!)

I thought the Companion didn't give us as much detail on the TNG episodes as the Compendium did on Classic Trek, but there are 47 more TNG episodes (up to season 5) than of TOS.

For those of us who haven't seen any of seasons 4 and 5, this book is especially good. It didn't make me feel what I was missing out on, more what to look out for! I would definitely recommend this book as a 'must' for all Next Generation fans - marks out of 10, I'd give it 9!

**DEBT OF HONOR** graphic novel. Hardback, £14.99 from Sheffield Space Centre. Reviewed by Steve Davies

The quality of printing and the artwork are both excellent and I simply cannot believe the amount of attention to detail and continuity from Kirk's days as a Lieutenant on the Farragut to the time of the fifth film. Apart from the return of Gillian Taylor, George and Gracie (and her new addition) I found one of the nicest touches to be the bottle of wine at the end - 'Chateau Picard'. Highly recommended!

**TREK 25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION** by James Van Hise, Pioneer Books 1991 152 pages \$14.95 (£10.00) Obtainable from Future Shock, Glasgow  
Reviewed by Edward Woo

As the title suggests, the book is a summary of the 25 years of Star Trek, from its beginnings in the 60s up to the announcement of ST VI. I found it well worth reading, bringing up more facts about Star Trek. The book has chapters on the five films, the original episodes and TNG ones up to Wesley's departure.

The best sections are the articles about certain ST day events, for example the Wax Museum, Spock in Hollywood and Gene at

the Museum of Broadcasting. Other interviews include those with DeForest Kelley, David Gerrold and Nicholas Mayer. There are some nice pictures of the Enterprise and of the Movieland Wax Museum exhibits of the crew.

I enjoyed reading this book for the information I mentioned. It's a nice souvenir book of ST's 25 years and beyond.

**GREAT BIRDS OF THE GALAXY**: Gene Roddenberry and the Creators of Star Trek by E Gross and M R Altman. Image Publishing 1992, 172 pages. \$14.95 (£10.00) Obtainable from Future Shock, Glasgow.  
Reviewed by Edward Woo

I found the book an absorbing read about the background to these creators, especially Gene Coon's contribution to Star Trek, to which this book is dedicated. I think it's well worth approx. £10 - an A4 size glossy book.

Here are some interesting points that came out of the book -

Gene R: Some Paramount executives were still trying to get script control just prior to filming 1st season TNG. Gene soon put a stop to that.

Gene Coon: He did a lot of rewrites of Classic Trek that were never credited and got the series working on a day to day basis

Fred F: Told to improve the ratings and broaden the audience despite a reduced budget.

H Bennett: Paramount told him to ignore Gene R's input

N Meyer: He never filmed multiple endings for ST II as was rumoured.

L Nimoy: Found editing ST III enjoyable and learned directing from others around him.

B Shatner: Would love to direct another ST film.

R Berman: To shepherd Gene in TNG. Gene R was the spark of ST. DS9 is just a progression of the creative process.

M Hurley: Gene had absolute ST rules that could not be violated.

M Piller: Many of the best scripts for TNG were from speculative writers. He says TNG is Gene's format and constricting at times. DS9 is on a tighter budget, meaning more bottle shows.

Each one of the creators above gives their own view of their involvement in ST, whether good, bad or indifferent. Nice idea for a front cover, but I still think they haven't got Kirk's drawn picture right yet.

**NCC-1701-D Poster** (that's been advertised in Starlog magazine for the last few months). £14.99 from Sheffield Space Centre. Reviewed by Steve Davies.

It is expensive for one poster (and even more expensive to find a frame to put it in!) but the quality of artwork and the printing is excellent. As I'm a technical illustrator myself I couldn't pass up the chance to have one on my wall. It measures 48.5 inches by 25 and the weight of the paper means that it's a bit heavy to just blu-tack to the wall. My only criticism is where it mentions all the Captains of the original Enterprise - April, Pike, Kirk... but where are Decker and Spock?

**THE DOCTOR AND THE ENTERPRISE** by Jean Airey Reviewed by Stephen Shaw

I must admit I am not a Dr Who fan (no bricks, please!).

Which is the more logical and reasonable - a universe in which an entity plays with a Starship and its crew as if they were dolls, creating play settings at will (Q and others before him) or a universe in which an entity travels through time and space but has little in the way of 'supernatural' powers?

The concept is not that odd really - the Starship Enterprise once more enters a different universe, and an odd box-like device

materialises on the transporter pad. In this universe there is no Federation, the Vulcans have wiped themselves out in a bloody war; however there is a very nasty race of beings who really enjoy killing - Sontarans.

Enterprise again has need of dilithium crystals - to return it to its own universe - and a planet is found with the necessary. Within 15 minutes of landing Kirk insults a local and picks up a quickly lethal virus. Kirk receives medication, but has to atone for the insult by facing a 'challenge', assisted by The Doctor.

The virus Kirk picked up helps him to use psi powers to assist the Doctor in defeating the Daleks once more (the Sontarans having already been dealt with).

The Doctor in this story is the one with the very long scarf and the robot dog K9. He appears to have no other companions at this time.

This story is well written, and works much better than it should do. There is a comic element, well picked up in the illustrations, which are great. Serious Star Trek it may not be, but it is a jolly good read. Recommended. Available from Star Tech, \$5.95 plus postage.

**STRANGE AND AMAZING FACTS ABOUT STAR TREK** by Daniel Cohen Archway (Pocket Books) 1986 ISBN 0-671-72956-X Paperback, 110 pages. Cover price \$2.95, available from Star Tech, Official Fan Club etc. Reviewed by Stephen Shaw

Perhaps the strangest, most amazing fact about Star Trek is the title of this small slim volume!

The author was the managing director of Science Digest (no longer published).

There is nothing in this book to amaze or astound; it amounts to merely a journeyman retelling the basic history of Trek, its crew and actors. There are many other Trek books with more content - usually though they do cost a little more!

The book is not aimed at the long time Trek devotees, but may serve as a good introduction to the new Classic fan who has just discovered Trek for the first time through the latest BBC2 showings.

Most amazing fact reported; no matter how badly damaged Enterprise is, even if there is no power for life support - artificial gravity continues to function at full power.

There are 22 rather muddy black and grey illustrative photographs, but nothing very exciting.

**TREK - THE MAKING OF THE MOVIES**  
by James Van Hise Pioneer 1992 150 pages  
\$14.95 (£10) Obtainable from Future Shock,  
Byers Road, Glasgow Reviewed by Edward  
Woo

As I collect books about the background and the making of the Trek films, I found this book not as detailed as I hoped. It tends to concentrate on how the six films developed their stories, with bit and pieces about the production of each movie, tending to highlight on the sticky moments of each film - most of which I already knew about from past books and magazines.

I felt the book lacked the technical side of film making, but there were one or two new things to note. i) There was a planned second book about the visuals of ST-TMP but it never came because Susan Sackett's and Walter Koenig's books were already out. ii) Both Bob Wise and Nick Meyer in ST II felt there was a distinct lack of editing time; even though one was a success, the other was only partially so. iii) Saavik in ST II was a 'back-up' to Spock if the role was not reprised. Many American executives still didn't know what 'wrath' meant. iv) For ST III the

☆☆☆☆

Romulans were pencilled in as the bad guys.

The book is a little disappointing, as I personally prefer Edward Gross's version, The Making of the Trek Films, because of its technical content. The book will be of use to ST fans who want an overview of the movies, and it does have a nice A4 front cover.

**HISTORY OF THE VESSEL ENTERPRISE - 16TH - 24TH CENTURY** by R M Roden, Jnr.  
Intergalactic Press 1992 127 pages \$14.95  
(£10) Obtainable from Future Shock,  
Glasgow. Reviewed by Edward Woo.

Having always been interested in naval vessels, the space programme and Star Trek, I found this book combining all three of my interests in depicting the history of the Enterprise. It's a nice A4 size book about how the famous name began and its possible future - an encyclopedia of facts, figures and a projected fiction of this ship. Each vessel has its history, details and major events it took part in in a few sentences. The major sections of the book are devoted to the aircraft carriers, the space shuttle and the Starships. There's even a blimp called after it!

In the Star Trek section it has a crew complement, projected time lines, stardates and a brief synopsis of each episode from Original, Animated, Movies to TNG (up to Unification). If you want a more detailed episode guide, this is not the book for you, but for a 'Jane's World of the Enterprise' in history - this is it. Again costly, but I do enjoy collecting these large format books.

The best bits, I found, were the chronological events of the two aircraft carriers, even though this book is aimed at a ST audience.

### **TNG CROSSWORD ANSWERS:**

**Across** 1. Best of Both Worlds, 7. Tasha Yar, 9 Aft, 11. Stargazer, 12. Worf, 14. Ian, 15. Torpedo, 17 Richard, 19. Enterprise, 21. Lwaxana, 22. Haven, 25 Wesley Crusher, 26. Pulaski, 27. Stations.

**Down** 2. Betazoid, 3. Wyatt, 4. Starfleet, 5. Data, 6. Borg, 8. Serene, 10 Ten Forward, 13. Kate, 15. Troi, 16. Riker, 17. Repulse, 18. Dixon Hill, 20. Phasers, 23. Guinan, 24. Geordi.



# ZINE ADS



You can send your Zine Ads to either Janet or Sheila. While we will try and print them in full we reserve the right to edit for length if necessary. We will print these ads in two consecutive newsletters only unless we receive an update.

IDIC/Scotpress

**IDIC LOG 10 - ENCOUNTERS AND COUNTERMOVES** by Nicole Comtet. The Enterprise under Captain Spock is on a training cruise. U.K.£4.00

**IDIC LOG** - short stories by various writers. 7, 8, 9, 11 U.K. £4.00; 6, 5 U.K. £3.90, 4 U.K. £3.80; 3, 1 U.K. £3.60.

**IDIC LOG 2 - ECHOES OF THE PAST** by Christopher Ng. When the Excelsior disappears, the Enterprise is sent to look for her. U.K. £3.90.

**ENTERPRISE - LOG ENTRIES 88** - a First Contact mission; Kirk, Spock & McCoy are taken prisoner by a planetary government; Kirk must come to terms with Miramanee's death; some of the crew want rid of Spock; Arena - the Gorn's-eye-view; Kirk is given orders that require him to be in two places at the same time; and others. U.K. £4.00

**ENTERPRISE - LOG ENTRIES 87** - after Amok Time; McCoy and Spock go to survey a planet; Spock contracts a fatal disease; and others U.K. £4.00.

**ENTERPRISE - LOG ENTRIES 86** U.K. £4.00; **85** U.K. £3.90; **84** U.K. £3.80; **83** U.K. £3.70. - short stories by various writers.

**MAKE IT SO 11** - A novel, POPPIES, by Gaile Wood. The Enterprise has been called to Injaab, which is trying to break away from the Ferengi... but some of the Injaabi are happy with the status quo. U.K. £3.90

**MAKE IT SO 6, 7, 8, 9, 10** - short stories about the TNG characters. U.K. £4.00.

**MAKE IT SO 5** - short stories about the TNG characters. U.K. £3.90. Few left.

Nos 1 - 4 out of print. Accepting submissions for issue 12 on.

**CHOSEN BROTHER** by Gloria Fry. Sequel to Gift Beyond Price and Kindred Spirit., set after Where No Man Has Gone Before. U.K. £3.15

**CAPRICCIO ITALIEN** by Sue Jones. The Enterprise picks up a Priority 1 call from Leonardo's Planet, but when the ship arrives there, everyone denies having sent it. Things however are not as peaceful as they seem. U.K. £3.90.

**CITY WITHOUT WALLS** by Alinda Alain. A sequel to One Among You. Although he has already been defeated, Mitchell's jealousy of Kirk and Spock forces him to keep on trying to destroy them. U.K. £2.95.

**KINDRED SPIRIT** by Gloria Fry - sequel to Gift. Mitchell cannot control his jealousy of Kirk and Spock. U.K. £3.25.

**RETURN TO THE SOURCE** by Nicole Comtet. Spock must get some top secret information to Vulcan. U.K. £3.25.

**LOVELY - A LITTLE PROBLEM** by Brenda Kelsey - The ship is in quarantine after the tribble episode and to occupy the time is carrying a group of diplomats to their destination. U.K. £3.90.

**ORCADIA** by Joyce Devlin. A sequel to From Starship to Lancaster. Kirk as a naval Captain, circa 1939, investigates the sinking of the Royal Oak at Scapa Flow. U.K. £3.15.

**ESSAYS OF AQUARIUS** by Marion Van der Voort. The adventures of Captain Bill Sava, First Officer Radin and Dr. Teddy Bhaer of the Aquarius. THIS IS NOT STAR TREK but there are many resemblances. On embarkation leave, Bill and Radin get to know each other; and we learn something about the Empire in which this series is set. U.K. £5.00.

Still available a number of other titles. Order from Sheila Clark, 6 Craigmill Cottages, Strathmartine, by Dundee DD3 0PH. Please make cheques/POs payable to Scotpress. Visa/Access/Mastercard accepted.

Foreign prices: Europe, add £1 per zine; Australia/Japan write to Sheila for prices, enclosing an SAE + IRC.

We have authorised Bill Hupe to reprint and sell IDIC & Scotpress zines in America, Canada and APO/FPO outside Britain; send to him for prices, enclosing a SAE.

We are soliciting submissions for IDIC and

ScoTpress zines - stories, poems, artwork - of both original Trek and TNG material, either short stories for IDIC LOG, ENTERPRISE - LOG ENTRIES or MAKE IT SO, or long ones suitable for printing on their own. No stories about death of main characters (except Yar!) or explicit sex; stories should include at least one character who has appeared in aired Trek. These are, after all, the voyages of the Starship Enterprise... (in either incarnation). Send submissions of TNG material to Sheila Clark, 6 Craigmill Cottages, Strathmartine, by Dundee, Scotland, and Classic Trek material to Valerie Piacentini, 20 Ardrossan Rd, Saltcoats, Ayrshire, Scotland.

#### **BILL HUPE & PEG KENNEDY**

For postage, add up the weight of the zines you want then check the postage table.

Weight	Air	Surface
Up to 2 lbs	\$16.35	\$8.60
Up to 3 lbs	\$22.40	\$11.40
Up to 4 lbs	\$27.40	\$13.90
Up to 5 lbs	\$33.75	\$17.25

For higher weights, add \$4.50/lb air, \$2.25 surface.

**MORE FUTURE VISIONS** - a collection of never-before-published Gamin Davis stories centering on the friendship Kirk and Spock share. Spock relates his youth to Kirk after Amok Time; an explosion on the bridge blinds Spock; and others. \$13.50 + 1 lb 4 oz postage

**NI VAR 3** - A pair of Spock-Chapel novels, the first a sequel to his own Ni Var 2 (Abode of Strife 7) by Richard Pollet; Chapel and Spock must come to grips with the legacy that their time travel has created when one of their son's ancestors is assigned to the Enterprise; the second an alternate sequel by Debra Wimer, where a rejected Chapel must fight to regain what she lost in Richard's original storyline. \$6.00 + 11 oz postage

**TRANSWARP 3** - The Lansing is on a four week shakedown cruise when a message is intercepted and the crew finds itself embroiled in planetary politics, intrigue and kidnapping. \$5.00 + 8 oz postage.

**BODY ELECTRIC** - Fiction and articles on Brent Spiner and Data, including a full-colour cover \$15.00 + 13 oz postage.

**EXPLORATIONS** - A compendium of Carol Davis' TNG fiction. Action-adventure stories. \$9.00 + 13 oz postage

**QUBED** - Fiction, poetry and art containing Q as the primary character or a main character. Full colour cover. Includes a Q-Vash story; the Enterprise rescues a group of children and Picard has his hands full. \$13.00 + 1 lb 1 oz postage.

**STEADY AS SHE GOES** - A ST:TNG anthology by Kay Doty. Riker must negotiate a treaty between two warring planets; Geordi follows a mysterious trail in search of a missing probe; and others. \$12.00 + 1 lb 3 oz postage.

**BILL AND DAVE'S NO HOLDS BARRED** - Mostly ST:TNG with some original material and Sherlock Holmes, this is a humour zine that takes an ascerbic look at TNG. It's cutting, but in good taste and should not offend anyone. \$7.50 + 8 oz postage

**ANTIZINE 2** - With a risque cover of Tasha and K/S paper dolls, it contains everything to K/S and beyond. The material is fairly 'serious' so please do not order if you are squeamish... \$17.00 + 15 oz postage.

We are authorised to reprint the following fanzines - out of print ScoTpress zines; Stardate Unknown 1 - 5, R & R, Archives, Showcase, Masiform D, Grup, Quartet + 2, all T'Kuhtian Press titles (Warped Space, Obsc'zine) and many other classic out of print fanzines; many other titles available. SASE + 4 IRCs for a full list. We can accept personal cheques from the U.K. Please add 1.5% for bank charges. Bill Hupe & Peg Kennedy - Footrot Flats, 916 Lamb Rd, Mason, MI 48854-9554 USA. **Please note change of address. The Trowbridge Road address was a box number which is no longer operating.** Authorised US agent for ScoTpress, IDIC, BSFR, Kay Stagg & Pat Mitchell. We now have two agents in Britain; Susan Ford, 5 Tyrell Rise, Warley, Brentwood, Essex CM14 5LE, England (SAE her for complete list of our zines; she collects orders for case shipments) or Janet Ellicott (see below) - SAE her for British prices.

#### **Greycloud Services**

Large quantity of Star Trek and other fanzines always in stock. Includes new US and Australian zines, second hand zines and reprints of classic Trek zines. Send large (at least A5) SAE for full list. Janet Ellicott, 43 Brooksbank House, Retreat Place, Morning Lane, Hackney, London E9 6RN, England.

Linda Wood -

**CENTRE STAGE** - 3 stories of Leonard Nimoy characters - Stryker from Get Smart, Lord Achmet from Marco Polo and Ben Blacker from M-Squad. Artwork by Caryl Sibbett. UK £3, Europe £5, Australia/Japan £6, USA \$10 inc surface postage.

**CENTRE STAGE 2** - 78 pages of stories and poems covering the whole range of Leonard Nimoy's characters, from Zombies of the Stratosphere to ST:TNG - Sarek, including convention prizewinners. Artwork by Sue Toher. UK £5, Europe £7, Australia/Japan £11 air, £7 surface, USA \$20 air, \$15 surface. Please state type of postage.

**AHMAD** - 200 pages of historical fiction on the turbulent life of Ahmat Fanakati, Leonard Nimoy's character from the TV miniseries Marco Polo. **Adult statement required.** Artwork by Sue Toher. UK £8, Europe £11.50, Australia/Japan £20 air, £11 surface, USA \$35 air, \$22 surface. Please state type of postage.

Zines copyright Tsaela Press. All available from Linda C Wood, 186 Copland Rd, Glasgow G51 2UN, Scotland.

**ZINES** by Kay Stagg

**Genzines** - Kirk/Spock orientated hurt/comfort. Please make cheques or postal orders payable to Kay Stagg and send orders to 33 Barrack Road, Guildford, Surrey GU2 6RU. Postage and packing included in the price (second class).

**SECOND CHANGE/A . COLD BY ANY OTHER NAME** (Previously appeared in Stargate and Stargate II) 75 pages £3.

**TROUBLES REVISITED/THE RIFT/ JUSTICE SHOULD BE SEEN TO BE DONE**

(previously appeared in Stargate III and Enterprise Log Entries 61 (ScoTpress)) 95 pages, £3.60. **FREEDOM** - full length story 167 pages £4.80. **TOO MANY AVENUES** - full length story £4.80. **IN PERSPECTIVE** - full length story 177 pages £4.80. For other items, ie pens, pencils, notebooks, bookmarks, etc, please send SAE for information. I have authorised Bill Hupe to reprint and sell these zines in America, Canada and APO/FPO outside Britain; send to him for prices, enclosing a SAE.

Merry Men Press

**FIRST TIME** zines contain K/S stories, art

and poetry. Age statement required.

**FIRST TIME** is always on time. All inquiries and orders are promptly filled, no-one's left to hang on the line. SAE (addressed envelope and 2 IRCs) for more info. **FIRST TIME 1 - 33** available.

**HEARTS OF FIRE** a K/S novel by Elizabeth Scott - an intriguing mystery, and lots and lots of love. **SHARING THE SUNLIGHT** - K/S novel by Jenna Sinclair. 200 pages fully illustrated by Chris Soto. Plot, love and Trek. What else can you ask for? **GAMBIT**, a Mirror/'our' universe K/S novel by Kay Wells. **WITHIN THE MIRROR 1 - 6** - an all mirror-related K/S zine, series and movie. Full of first time stories, and on time.

**BESIDE MYSELF 1 - 3** - well-illustrated K/S zines exclusively written by Robin Hood and her assorted pen names. **FETISH** - a K/S novel by Jenny Starr. Winner of 1988 Best Novel. **PORTRAITS** - A K/S novel by Charlotte Frost. **SCATTERED STARS 1 - 4** - an alternate universe K/S fanzine where wild imagination and first time plots collide. **PLAYFELLOWS 1 - 4 - MULTIMEDIA '/'** If you know what slash is, you don't need any more words. Prices for all zines are \$20.00 US, \$22.00 Canada, \$26.00 foreign. US currency only please. We are also looking for quality submissions of prose and art. Merry Men Press, 274 Roanoke Rd, El Cajon, CA 92020, USA.

**ENTERPRISE ORIGINALS Publications**

**MANY A SLIP** a collection of short stories and poems of a humorous nature by various writers, edited by Sue Jones. Order from Jacqueline Comben, Post Cottage, Rhossili, Gower, Swansea, SA3 1PL, South Wales. Price: £1.25 for EOs members, £1.75 for others. Add 35p for Postage and packing. Cheques in sterling only to Enterprise Originals.

**BSFR**

Many titles available. SAE for list to Neville Taylor, BSFR Zines, 48 Picton St, Montpelier, Bristol BS6 5QA. We have authorised Bill Hupe to reprint and sell BSFR zines in America, Canada and APO/FPO outside Britain; send to him for prices, enclosing a SAE.

Kathleen Resch

K/S zines - age statement required

**T'HY'LA 12** new, \$26.00 air, \$20.00 surface.  
**T'HY'LA 1, 3-5, 7-9** (short stories) \$24.00 each, air, \$20.00 each surface; **T'HY'LA 10 & 11** \$26.00 each, air, \$20.00 surface. No. 2, novel 'The Things I Cannot Change' \$24.00 air, \$20.00 surface; No. 6, \$18.00 air, \$15.00 surface. No. 13 is open for submissions.  
**BEFORE THE GLORY** (short stories) \$24.00 air; **DAY OF VENGEANCE**, novel by Jean Lightfoot and C. Del Rio, \$19.00 air; **THE PRICE OF FREEDOM** - novel by Jean Lightfoot. Spock has disappeared; Kirk risks both life and career to find him - but when he does, he finds a drug-addicted stranger... \$26.00 air, \$20.00 surface. Zines from other fandoms also available. Kathleen Resch, PO Box 1766, Temple City, CA 91780, USA.

#### FOREVER PRODUCTIONS

**EDGE OF FOREVER III** - includes a 60,000 word novel, **THE GUMSHOE INCIDENT** by S Bookman. Kirk and Spock return to Iotia a year after negotiating 'a piece of the action'. What's going on is murder! **ABSENT WITHOUT LEAVE** by J Miller - Janice Rand is missing. **DISCOVERIES** by M Pecor - Kirk, Spock & McCoy anticipate their new working relationship at the beginning of the 5-year mission; and others. Europe air, \$25.00. Also available, **EDGE OF FOREVER II**, Europe air, \$20.00 and **EDGE OF FOREVER I**, Europe air, \$15.00; **THE TREKZINE TIMES**, a letterzine about fanzines, featuring articles about publishing, editing, writing, etc; as well as featuring readers' letters. Published quarterly, Europe air \$16.00. For detailed info send 2 IRCs to Forever Publications, Dept 1D, PO Box 75, Cooper Station, New York, NY 10276, USA.

#### THE SMALL PRINTERS

**CLOSER THAN A BROTHER** by Meg Wright. (Reprint) £6.75 inclusive of p&p.  
**HOOPS OF STEEL** by Meg Wright. (Reprint) £4.25 inclusive of p&p. Star Trek and Professionals zines, new and reprinted. SAE for prices and availability to L. R. Muir, 1 Moor Park Avenue, Leeds LS6 4BT.

#### HIATUS PRESS

**A LEGEND BEGINS** by Barbara Alleyn. A biography of the early life of James T. Kirk. 200+ pages. Printed on A5 with card covers

and spiral bound. Price £5.30 inc postage. US price \$14.00 inc postage. Cheques should be made payable to Barbara E. Ellams. Hiatus Press, Flat 2, 32 St Mary's Road, London SE15 2DW

**LONESTAR TREK No. 4** Original Trek and TNG. Original Trek novellas by Lynn Syck & Mary Rottler, and Lorraine Anderson; stories by Laurie D. Haynes and Jan Meek; art by Kay Wells and Brett Barham. Special 25th anniversary colour cover by Kay Wells. Approximately 200 pages. \$19 US, \$20 Can, \$26 Europe, \$28 Pacific. Still available - No. 1 \$20 OS Airmail, No.2 & No.3 \$25 OS Airmail, Classic Trek and TNG stories. **ST - LONESTAR TREK No.5**. Seeking Classic Trek submissions for this issue which will be all Classic. Any length story is fine but must revolve around at least one of the "Big Three" (Kirk, Spock, and McCoy). Stories with a hurt-comfort theme are particularly welcome. No slash. Also accepting art submissions - send photocopy examples of your artwork. All submission should be accompanied by a SASE. Deadline Aug. 1, 1992. **STNG - SECOND GENERATION No. 1**. Now seeking art and story submissions (no slash) for this new Next Gen zine from the publishers of LoneStar Trek. High quality format, hurt-comfort, action adventure, and relationships. Must focus on at least one of the main characters. Gloss colour cover by Patti Prevett. Send photocopy examples of your artwork. All submissions should be accompanied by an SASE. Send orders and submissions to LoneStar Trek, c/o Laurie Haynes/Jan Meek, 335 Smith Lake Road, Vidor, TX 77662, U.S.A.

#### VILLAGE PRESS

**THE EXTREMISTS** by Eva Stuart. The Klingon Peace hangs in the balance. All eyes are on the Enterprise, the Ahrax and fleet. Their scientific mission must not fail. Human honesty confronts Klingon honour. Can the fighting really stop? K/S and adult relationships; age statement please. Price to be announced; SAE for flyer (U.S. 2 IRCs or \$1).

**VOICE 5** - Dangerous intrigue at Starfleet HQ. McCoy has a 'little list'. Plague on New Paris. Contains a prequel to The Extremists. UK £5.50, Europe £6.50, Canada £8.50,

Australia £9.50, USA \$21.00.

**IN THE WILDERNESS 1** - Stories by Frances Rowes, Vivian Gates, Kathleen Resch and others. Highly original writing from some of fandom's best talents. UK £6.50, Europe £8.00, Canada £10.00, Australia £11.50, USA \$23.00

**IN THE WILDERNESS 2** - Why didn't Spock say his father was the Vulcan Ambassador? How does Amanda put up with husband and son? Why must Kirk and Spock take to the desert? And much more! Prices as ITW1.

**IN THE WILDERNESS 3** is next in line. I would like more stories, preferably established relationship; political, original, humour would be nice but please no S/Mc, menage or death. New writers, gentle, caring editor would like to see your work. (K/S only please).

Please note **VOICE 1 - 4** are out of print. Orders already in for No. 2 will be filled as soon as possible. Mrs. Rosemary Wild, 'Cwm Croeser', Stuckton, Fordingbridge, Hants. K/S and adult relationships. Age statement, please.

Sue Embury-

**THE BETTER MAN.** Alternative "Turnabout Intruder" story, in which Kirk is trapped in the body of a woman and no-one except Spock recognises his plight. UK price - £5. Overseas surface mail - £5 sterling banknote plus 4 IRCs.

**THE PARTING OF THE WAYS.** Now reprinted. At the end of the five year mission Kirk is given a secret mission, McCoy is called upon to help out as a country doctor, while Spock returns to Vulcan in search of a wife. UK price - £4.25. Overseas surface mail - £5 sterling bank note.

Both available from: Sue Embury, Lower Baileia, Tregare, Monmouth. Gwent NP5 4JL

**CONTAGION ONE** - All of the fan fiction entered in the Contagion '92 writing competition contained in a single volume with a specially written forward by Jean Lorrain! Price £3.80 inclusive of p&p (ALL PROFITS TO CHARITY). Cheques/Postal Orders made payable to Contagion. Available from Contagion, P.O. Box 867, Rutherglen, Glasgow G73 4HR.

Hailing all writers of *original* Star Trek stories

and poems, both Gen and K/S!! and artists!! "OUTPOST" will be publishing both Gen (The Preserver's Chronicles) and K/S (The Preservers Secret Chronicles) zines in the near future and is looking for submissions. We are willing to consider *all* subjects, as long as they deal with Kirk, Spock, McCoy and the crew of the Enterprise (including all the films!). All contributors will, of course, receive a complimentary copy of the zine in which their material is printed. Please send to: "OUTPOST", Bettina Rackel and Karen Hayden, Am Tannenbusch 31, 4192 Kalkar, West Germany.

**MOMENTS IN TIME**, an adult TNG zine of short stories by Pat Mitchell. 100+ pages, spiral-bound. Send SAE for flyer. Will not knowingly be sold to anyone under 18. Prices include p&p: UK £5.50, Europe £6.50, USA \$15 (air), \$12 (surface). Other countries send IRC for price. Sterling and dollar cheques accepted payable to Pat Mitchell. Order from: 38 Ashbourne Grove, Halifax, West Yorkshire, HX1 4JU, England. Note: Available in US from Bill Hupe, send him SASE for price.

Hummers Ink

**NAKED NOW ONE** - a zine of Picard/Crusher stories. R3.50 within South Africa; foreign, "make me an offer". Available from Marina Bailey, P.O. Box 74151, Turfontein, Johannesburg 2140, Rep. of South Africa.

H Gibson

We're looking for Trek writers to contribute to a new Classic/NG zine. No K/S and a definite slant toward "minor" Classic characters. Any NG stories welcome. If you've any work to show us please submit stories, poems and artwork to H Gibson, 23 Blairatholl Avenue, Glasgow G11 7QJ.

**SPACE-TIME CONTINUUM**, an occasional not-quite monthly newsletter of media & SFAN news from Bjo Trimble. Subscription Rates for 6 issues: USA \$5 Bulk mail, \$8 First Class, Canada \$9 Air Printed Matter, Overseas \$12 Air Printed Matter. Make cheques/money orders payable to: Bjo Trimble. Bjo Trimble, 2059 Fir Springs Drive, Kingwood, TX 77339-1701, USA.

### HiFi Media

M3 - an A5, laser printed, 32 page, multi media zine. Facts, fiction and fun!

**M3 : ISSUE ONE** - We look at the various remakes of STAR TREK, gauging the fan reactions to them and offer OPINIONS on whether the original series is worthy of the title "Classic". We take an indepth look at SAPPHIRE AND STEEL, reminisce about THE CLANGERS, detail the video anti copying system MACROVISION and present photos and comments on rarer items of telefantasy MERCHANDISE. Also : the first part of the hilarious DOCTOR WHO AND THE ATTACK OF THE TARGET WRITERS, Who exhibitions in Paisley, and WAFFLE!

**M3 : ISSUE TWO** - We compare Honor Blackman and Diana Rigg AVENGERS episodes, look at STAR TREK and THE NEXT GENERATION in comics, take an indepth look at MAX HEADROOM and compare STINGRAY with VOYAGE TO THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA. OPINION considers possible formats for a new series of DOCTOR WHO whilst the Doctor concludes his adventure with THE TARGET WRITERS. Also: Conventions, TECH on Widescreen TV, MERCHANDISE and the inevitable WAFFLE! **M3 : ISSUE THREE** - Available January 1993. Each issue costs £1.50 including postage, cheques/POs payable to Stuart Halliday, M3(IDIC), 35 Pinewood Park, Deans, Livingston, EH54 8NN.

### INFINITE FRONTIERS

Infinite Frontiers is a relatively new fan publishing team, devoted to releasing the best possible zines we can. We pride ourselves in specialising in article-based zines, not unlike club newsletters. Our first release is the unique title, **THE FINAL FRONTIER**, a magazine on DISK for owners of the Commodore Amiga computer!! To our knowledge, this is the world's first disk based magazine to feature Trek. Our first three issues are available and feature work from top artists and musicians on the Amiga including Tobias Richter and Bjorn Lynn along with a selection of art and photos. Each issue also contains AT LEAST 200 A4 pages of text!

Prices for the first three issues are: Issue 1 (2 disks) - £3, Issue 2 (3 disks) - £4 and Issue 3 (4 disks!) - £5. All prices include P&P.

Overseas orders are welcome but please add £0.50 per issue towards postage. As a special offer to IDIC members, order all 3 issues for only £10 (£11 overseas inc P&P) saving at least £2. All orders must be in sterling and made payable to: Simon Plumbe, 14 Rousdon Grove, Great Barr, Birmingham, B43 5HN, England. Please mention IDIC when replying.

**WANTED** Trek writers to submit storylines, synopses, ideas for a totally 100% graphic fiction zine with a view to adapting into comic-strip form. Any eras, any type of story (though I'm not keen on K/S). Full writers' credit given and approval sought on script development. Dr Who stories also wanted for established zine of similar nature. Curious?... For more information write to: Martin Street/Regenerate Productions, 52 Cobden Street, Palfrey, Walsall, West Midlands.

**HORIZON**, the Blake's Seven Appreciation Society produces a range of more than 20 fanzines, including **HORIZON issues 1 through 16** (club zine - general B7 fiction/art), Interviews, the Horizon Technical Manual, single story zines, and more. Our zines are all professionally printed. New: **HORIZON 15, HORIZON 16, BEST OF SPACEFALL 2, TECHNICAL MANUAL III**, car stickers. For our zine list, please send an SAE (or US\$1 bill or 2 IRCS for overseas) to: Miss Ann Steele, Horizon Zine Sales, 66 Sherwood Park, Sutton, Surrey SM1 2SG, UK.

**ROBIN HOOD; ROBIN OF SHERWOOD** - Tree of Life 4 accepts anything based on Robin Hood. Currently looking for Robin of Sherwood, Prince of Thieves (Kevin Costner), Robin Hood with Patrick Bergen & Uma Thurman; crossovers, apocryphal... in other words, anything based on Robin Hood. The zine accepts mild adult themes (no slash). Three pieces of art (ink or photocopied material only) or poetry will earn a contributor's copy. Stories should be at least 5 pages in length. Deadline for contributions, January 1st 1993. Todd Parrish, 269 West 400 North No. A, Provo, Utah 84601, USA.

Tree of Life 1, 2 & 3 are strictly Robin of Sherwood issues. Available from Bill Hupe (see above for address).

**AIRWAVES:** Multi-media fan-fiction zine, 26 issues currently available. Also available, **THE HOODED MAN** (Robin of Sherwood) - **KNIGHT 2000** (Knight Rider - **FIGHT INTO SLAVERY** (B7 crossover with Battlestar Galactica). In preparation, **CHILDREN OF PEACE** (V). Submissions welcome for any and all publications, no limits to length. Amstrad/Locoscript 1 or 2 users can submit their work on 3" disc (180k) or 3.5" disc (720k). Compatible computers, please use ASCII for documents. Discs will be sent back by return of post, manuscripts if requested. SAE for further details to: Miss B Callagher, 195 Radipole Lane, Weymouth, Dorset, DT4 0TQ.

#### CITYPRESS/OUTER ZINE

Boldly going where everyone has gone before, an all-new combined newsletter and zine! What more could you ask for??? (Please see our **OUTER ZONE** ad in the "Local Group News" section for details of The Outer Zone SF/Fantasy club.) Each issue costs just 85p inc. p&p! We have back

issues of **ZONE GUIDE** Nos 1-4 available for just £2.00 inc. p&p. Just out is **ZONE GUIDE - PHASE II, Issue No. 1** (January 1992 edition) which has the **WHOLE** plot to Star Trek VI and the latest TNG info, stories, art, a Blakes Seven column and more! **Issue No. 2** (out April 1992) will see the start of an **EXCLUSIVE!** We will be publishing the first part of an **ACTUAL SUBMITTED TNG SCRIPT** called "The Ghosts of Yesteryear"! What are you waiting for??? Please send cheques/p.o. payable to Susan Parker, 42 Victoria Street, **BRIGHTON**, East Sussex, BN1 3FQ, or an SAE for more details.

**WARP NINE:** Issue five is now available. The 38 pages feature articles on Doctor Who, Star Trek (all versions), The Prisoner and other cult sci-fi. Send cheque/PO for £1 made payable to the **DREAMWEAVERS** to the address below. Back issues available (SAE for details). Ursula Clarke, 10 Bunbury Road, Bury St Edmunds, IP32 6HT. Enclose SAE.



## CONVENTIONS/ADVERTS/CLUBS/GROUPS

### CONVENTIONS / GET-TOGETHERS

**STARBASE 93** Star Trek Convention. January 29th-31st 1993, Hilton International Hotel, Leeds. Guest of Honour: James Doohan, other guests to be confirmed. Video rooms showing Original Trek, Latest TNG and hopefully Deep Space 9!!! An alternative non-Trek programme will also be screened. Other activities will include: Fancy Dress, Discos, Dealers tables, Auctions, Art/Model & Fiction competitions and more. Registration: £30 Adult, £15 child under 14, Under 5's go free. Discounts on these prices available now, for a limited time. Hotel room rates pppn, incl. full English Breakfast & VAT; £30 single, £22.50 twin/double and £20 triple. Send SAE for further details and registration form to: Carol Looby, 152 Otley Road, Headingley, Leeds LS16 5JX.

**TREK/DWARF** The First Star Trek/Red Dwarf Convention. 26th - 28th March, 1993.

Holiday Inn, Leicester. Registration £25.00 (£35.00 after Dec '92). Guests: Richard Arnold, Guy Vardaman, Mike Butcher, Adrian Rigglesford, Colin Howard. Plus unconfirmed guest/s from Red Dwarf. For further information write enclosing 2 SAEs to: **TREK/DWARF**, 47 Marsham, Orton Goldhay, Peterborough PE2 5RN.

**WARP ONE:** The 35th British Star Trek Convention. 30th April - 3rd May, 1993 At the Middleton Tower Holiday Centre, Morecambe, Lancs. Registration: £30, under 16s half price, under 5s free. Day and supporting registrations available. Accommodation: £26.70 PPPN if paying before 18/3/93, £33.30 PPPN after 18/3/93. Under 16s half price, under 2s free. The rate is for full board accommodation. Guests to be announced, parties, disco, video programmes, the usual competitions plus some surprises. In aid of Cancer Research. For more details and a registration form send

an SASE to Warp One, 69 Merlin Crescent, Edgware, Middlesex HA8 6JB.

**CONTAGION** the Scottish Star Trek Convention. 17-19 July, 1993. Venue: The Hospitality Inn, Glasgow. Guests to be announced. Registration (until 1 January, 1993): Adult (15 years +) - £30; 10-14 years - £15, under 10 Free. Note: children under 10 must be accompanied by at least one paying adult. Creche facilities will NOT be available. Special discount for Contagion '92 attendees and Away Team Members until 1st January 1993 - ask for details. Hotel rates (per person per night): Single £35, Twin/Double £25; Triple £20. Price is for Bed & Breakfast and includes VAT and Service. £15 per person non-refundable deposit at time of booking. For further info send a 9" x 6" SAE to CONTAGION, PO Box 867, Rutherglen, Glasgow G73 4HR, Scotland.

**HOLODECK** The 36th British Star Trek Convention. 27th - 30th August, 1993 Telford Moat House Hotel. In aid of the Invalid Childrens' Aid Nationwide Charity. Confirmed Guests: Geoff Ryman (author of "Spock In Manacles"), Freda Warrington (fantasy author of the "Blackbird" series), Dr Julian Headlong (scientist extraordinaire and a wonderful speaker on topics such as alcohol and Vulcan biochemistry) and Janet Quarton. Registration: Full £25, Fri/Sat or Sun/Mon £15, Sat/Sun £20, 1 day £10, Supporting £10. Child 10-16 half the above rates, under 10s free. Hotel Rates, per person per night, inclusive of full English Breakfast and VAT: £25 sharing a twin or double, £32 in a single. Send an SAE for further info and registration form to: Holodeck 93, P.O. Box 29, Hitchin, Herts SG4 9TG.

**LIGHTSPEED '93** Star Trek: The Next Generation Convention. 17th-19th Sept. 1993 The Hilton International Hotel, Leeds. Registration: £20 full, £12.50 one day, £10 supporting, £10 child 5-14 years, FREE under 5. Room Rates: £25 pppn (£40 Single occ/ in Double room). Charities RSPCA, Save the Children, Trees for Survival and The Imperial Cancer Research Fund. Aim: To raise £2,000 for the above charities. Guests TBA (Please note there will be NO American Guests). Events: Videos, talks, competitions, bars,

food, displays, dealers and lots more. Send SAE to Lightspeed '93, 16 Bramwell Street, Eastwood, Rotherham, S. Yorkshire S65 1RZ.

**1974-1993 BRITISH STAR TREK ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION** October 1st - 3rd, 1993. The Holiday Inn, Leicester. Registration: £40.00 until June 1993, then £45.00 thereafter (payment by instalments if required) - SPECIAL DISCOUNT for attendees of 1st BRITISH STAR TREK CONVENTION - LEICESTER 1974. Full details from: Terry Elson, 8 Ennerdale Close, Oadby, Leicester LE2 4TN.

**UFP CON '94** (The 37th: British Star Trek Convention) 29th April to 2nd May 1994, Britannia International Hotel, London. Registration: £25 until 31/12/92, £30 thereafter. Under 16's half price, under 10's free. Accommodation: £27.50 per person in a twin, double or triple, £31.00 in a single. For a registration form and further details please send an SAE to Ros Liddle, 61 The Scotchhill, Coventry CV6 2EW.

### NON BRITISH ST CONVENTIONS

**STARLIGHT UNION** presents: Majel Barrett-Roddenberry and Richard Arnold. August 20-22, 1993, in Hannover, Germany. For more information please contact Angela Dargel, Am Graswege 38, W-3000 Hannover 1, Germany. Please include 2 International Reply Coupons and a self-addressed envelope.

### MISC

**SNOW WHITE AND THE 7 DWARFS** with GEORGE TAKEI as the Mirror Master. A CHARITY GALA PERFORMANCE in aid of the St. John's Ambulance Brigade.

Date: Thursday December 17th, 1992.

Time: 7.30pm (finish approx. 10pm).

Venue: The Dome, 29 New Road, Brighton, Sussex, BN1 1UG.

Prices: £7.50; £6.50; 5.50. Box seats at The Box Office, Tel: 0273-674357. Access/Barclaycard/American Express/Diner cards acceptable for telephone bookings. Children: £5. Senior Citizens: £6.50; £5.50; £5.00.

There will be a raffle in aid of The St. John's Ambulance Brigade. After the performance a Wine & Cheese Reception is arranged. Civic

Dignitaries, Officers of the St. John's Ambulance Brigade, and cast members will attend. Tickets £10.00.

For Star Trek fans who attend the performance concessionary rates for accommodation at The Royal Albion Hotel are offered (subject to room availability). Contact: The Royal Albion Hotel, Old Steine, Brighton, Sussex BN1 1NT. (Tel: 0273-29202). The pantomime runs from the official opening night Dec. 18th '92 to Jan 9th '93. (info G.H.T. George Takei's Official Worldwide Fan Club)

### **AWAYTEAM '93 10th - 25th March 1993.**

Join the Away Team for an action-packed 15 day holiday to San Francisco, Las Vegas and Los Angeles - taking in El Capitan and Yosemite National Park, an old fashioned Western Township, the Grand Canyon, Disneyland, Universal Studios, Vasquez Rocks and other places familiar to Trekkers. Inclusive price £825. For more details and a booking form, please contact Mrs Sadie Mason, 20 Shepley Road, Rednal, Birmingham B45 8SP. *Please note - this group is not connected to The Away Team (Glasgow).*

### **NON STAR TREK EVENTS**

**TIMEWARP** The Grand Hotel, Malahide, Co. Dublin. 6th & 7th March 1993. Guests: George Takei, Diane Duane and Peter Morwood. A media convention celebrating SF and fantasy, with a special emphasis on Star Trek and Dr. Who. The convention will be loosely 'themed' around a 'United Federation of Planets' conference. Programming will include a Starfleet Academy entrance exam, and an "Ambassadors" Ball". Registration Rates: Adult £25, Juniors (U16) £17 for the weekend. Supporting rate (adult or junior) £10. Day rate will also be available. Hotel Rates: £25 per person per night in a double room, £36 single. Triple rooms are also available. Charity: The Children's Medical & Research Fund, Our Lady's Hospital for Sick Children, Cromlin, Dublin. Registrations/further information from: 178 Woodfield, Scholarstown Road, Dublin 16, Ireland.

*The Timewarp Convention has no connection with the Rocky Horror Fan Club of the same name.*

**ACTION 93** A Weekend of ITC Entertainment eg. The Saint, Randall & Hopkirk (Deceased), Thunderbirds, The Prisoner and Persuaders. March 26-28th 1993.

Shepperton Moat House, Shepperton Middx. Registration £30 - £40 for the weekend depending on associated club membership. For details and registration form send SAE to Clair Saunders, 12 Saville Crescent, Ashford, Middx TW15 1SX.

**UNIFICATION:** 9th-12th April 1993, Britannia International Hotel, London. A multi-media SF and fantasy convention. Registration: £25. Accommodation: £27.50 per person per night in a twin, double or triple, £31.00 in a single. For registration form and further details please write to Ros Liddle, 61 The Scotchhill, Coventry CV6 2EW.

**MASQUERADES '93** 2nd Major Beauty & the Beast convention, 28-31 May 1993. The Grand Hotel Birmingham. Registration £37.00 (includes meal at the Sunday evening banquet). Room Rates £30 per night single, £25.00 pppn in twin/double, £23.00 pppn in a triple (includes full English breakfast and VAT @ 17.5%). All the usual goodies; guest so far Armin Shimerman, others to be announced. For reg. form send SASE to: Jacqui Clarke, 12 Jessop Close, Leasingham, Sleaford, Lincs NG34 8LJ.

**UNICON '93** Universal Science Fiction Convention (presented by BSFR). Venue: Unicorn Hotel, Bristol 25th - 27th June, 1993. Registration: Adults £20, kids under 14 £10, under fives free. Highlights will include: full video programme including Klingon Extravaganza - guest talks & panels - static displays - dealers' room - disco & fancy dress party - all kinds of science fiction and fantasy material plus lots & lots of fun fun fun! Send an SASE for full details to: Bernie Walsh, 55 Kildare Road, Knowle, Bristol BS4 1

### **FRIENDSHIP COLUMN**

Friendship adverts will be printed in one newsletter.

I am looking for anyone interested in any/all Star Trek to write to me. I also like Quantum Leap, Red Dwarf, other SF and computers, so you can write to me on any of these subjects (but these are just my main interests. I am 18 and would like to write to anyone from anywhere, so long as you are not a Romulan Spy. Write to Colin Mackay, 19 Barntongate Terrace, Edinburgh EH4 8BA.

I just joined IDIC. I am interested in Star Trek, future and other life forms, and have other interests. I want to write to people about it. Please write to Alberto Gorin, di Bruynlaan 5, 6816 PW. Arnhem, Holland.

Hi! I'm a 17 year old girl who is frustrated by a lack of Trekkers in my area so I would love some penpals. I like watching, reading and writing Star Trek. I like original and Next Gen Trek, and Dr Who, Blakes 7, Sapphire and Steel and Red Dwarf. So write now please. I'll try to reply to all letters I receive. Laura Kempton, 16 Elm Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 0JL.

Angrit Lower enjoys writing letters and is looking for penpals in Ireland, Australia, Canada, France, Japan, Turkey and the U.S.A. Please write to Angrit Lower, Bustellistr. 18, 8750 Aschaffenburg, Germany.

Wanted: People to write to me. I am heavily into Star Trek Classic and Next Gen, will swap info and almost anything to do with Trek. Will accept penfriends from anywhere! Please write to me at one of these addresses: Lee H. Dewar, 135 Church Place, Fouldhouse, West Lothian or White Block, H.M.S. Neptune, CSB, Faslane, Nr. Helensburgh, Dumbartonshire G84 8HL.

I would like to get in touch with any Star Trek/Science Fiction fans in the Seattle area in the U.S.A. I am expecting to be sent there on several business trips in the next year and thought it might be nice to get in touch. Mary Frost, 32 Devonshire Gardens, Bursledon, Southampton, Hants SO3 8HE.

#### SMALL ADS

Please note: All adverts are printed as a service to members and IDIC cannot accept

any liability. Adverts should be a maximum of 10 lines - will be printed in one newsletter only.

Please remember it is illegal to offer videos for sale, except for official copies - although there is no law against asking. It is also in breach of copyright to advertise photocopies of zines, and unfair to request them, without the permission of the editor. Adverts will therefore be edited if necessary.

FOR SALE: CD:- ST:TNG "Encounter At Farpoint" £10 MAGAZINES:- Cinefantastique (April 92 issue - tons of news on the filming of Trek VI £3.00) (December 92 issue - Dracula special £3.00), Star Trek Official Fan Club mag #75, 76, 77, 78, 80 & 85 @ £1.90 each, TV Zone issues #13, #15-#25, #27, #28 @£1.50 each, TV Zone Specials #3-#5 @£2.50 each. IDIC LOG 9 £3.50 / NON-FICTION BOOKS:- "The World Of Star Trek" £5.00, "The Star Trek Compendium" £5.00, "The Making of The Trek Films" £6.50, Klingon Dictionary (Pocket book edition) £2.00 / NOVELS (£1.50 each):- "The Romulan Way", "Bloodthirst", "The Final Reflection", "The 3-minute Universe" "The Entropy Effect", "The Kobayashi Maru", "The Trellisane Confrontation", "The Klingon Gambit" & "Battlestations". Also ST:TNG "Reunion" £10 (hardback version) / ST:TNG VIDEO "Time Squared" & "The Icarus Factor" £5.00 / BLUEPRINTS:- USS Enterprise "evolution" blueprints (three 24" by 36" sheets showing 10 classes of starships) £5.00. Phone Edwin on Hove (0273) 734860 at any time. All prices inc. P+P, and I will consider swapping, for anything you have.

FOR SALE: Star Trek: The Role-Playing Game (2nd edition, 3 manuals) £5.00 / "Tricorder/Starship Sensors Display" £5.00 / Klingon Ship Recognition Manual £5.00 / "The Federation" supplement £6.00 / "The Klingons" supplement (1 manual + 1 adventure supplement) £7.00 / "The Romulans" supplement (1 Starfleet intelligence manual, 1 Game Operations manual) £7.00 / Triangle Campaign (1 information manual, 1 campaign manual + large 22" x 17" colour map) £10.00 / Starfield Hex Grids (5 \* 33" by 22" sheets @£1.00 each).

Everything inc. P+P. Phone Edwin on Hove (0273) 734860 at any time. I will consider swapping for anything you have.

FOR SALE: Star Trek Merchandise - Star Trek the Official Fan Club Magazine back issues 63,67,68,70 to 87 at £1 each. All 21 magazines £15. Please list alternatives when ordering, all magazines are in Excellent Condition. Other ST books and Audio novels on cassette. Nichelle Nichols, Out of this World, featuring "Gene", includes audio interview with Nichelle Nichols. as new £5 incl p&p. Also Doctor Who videos, from all 7 Doctors. S.A.E. for list. Star Trek: The Next Generation postcards, set of 16, price £5.60 inc. p&p. All cards in good condition. Send SAE for my list of ST merchandise. Mr. Peter Hughes, Bryn Myfyr, West End, Clan Conwy, Colwyn Bay, Clwyd LL28 5SY.

FOR SALE: Classic Trek and TNG books, Titan Editions. For list send SAE to David Brown, 89 Queens Road, Gosport, Hants PO12 1LG.

FOR SALE: Star Trek Annuals 1973+1976 (£4.00) each. Paperbacks, all in very good condition - Star Trek 1 and 2 Corgi books, ST:TNG Encounter at Farpoint, B7 The Programme Guide, V The Pursuit of Diana (£2.00 each). All prices include p+p. Order from Lindsey Sheltan, 94 Parkes Street, Smethwick, Warley, West Midlands B67 6BH.

FOR SALE: Next Gen Impel Trading Cards (120 cards), 25th Anniv series I & II £8 per set, Bonus cards 60p each, Hologram cards £7.50 each. Display box £1 each. Thunderbirds Trading cards (100) £6 set. Single cards available on all sets 10p each. Postage £1 first set, 50p each other, single cards SAE. Mark French, 23 Colgrove, Welwyn Garden City, Herts AL8 6HY.

FOR SALE: Star Trek, TNG, SF magazines, poster mags, videos, records etc. SAE to Mark Jenkins, 418 Hedgemans Road, Dagenham, Essex RM9 6BU.

FOR SALE: K/S zines, photonovels. Send SAE for list to A. J. Killelay, 103 Ropery Road, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire DN21 2NU.

FOR SALE: I have this new book for sale, Charting the Undiscovered Country, The Making of Trek VI by Mark Altman and Edward Gross, price £9. Write to Mr. J. Green, Block 14, Door B, Flat 10, Carwana Dingli Street, San Gwann SGN 05m Malta.

WANTED: The paperback I Am Not Spock by Leonard Nimoy. Also the soundtracks of ST-TMP and STII-TWOK on audio cassette. Please write to Mr. J. Green (see above.)

WANTED: Has anyone got copies of Make It So 1-4 that they want to find a home for? I would be willing to pay a reasonable price. Alternatively would any kind person like to lend me copies? I would of course pay postage both ways. Contact - Liz Butler, 88 Pickering Road, Pennywell, Sunderland SR4 9DY.

WANTED: I would dearly appreciate copies of non-ST Gene Roddenberry material I haven't seen (which is everything apart from Questor and Planet Earth). I would especially treasure Genesis II and Spectre, as well as some of the scripts Lincoln Enterprises used to offer of unproduced Gene material such as Magna 1. If you can help me, please either ring (0223) 423509, and I will ring you straight back, or write: Roger Buck, 4 Robert Jennings Close, Cambridge CB4 1YT. I would like to borrow, buy, or if you like, will donate to the IDIC Guide Dog fund for your efforts on my behalf.

WANTED - Starfleet Medical Reference Manual. Will pay a good price. Edward Woo, 553 Smithdown Rd, Wavertree, Liverpool 15, L15 5AF, Merseyside.

WANTED: zine 'The Logical Thing to Do' by Simone Mason. Also I would like any old ScoTpress zines - Log Entries or full length stories. Reasonable prices paid. Send list to Lynne Buckley, 160 Fairway Road, Shepshed, Loughborough, Leics LE12 9HQ.

WANTED - GOLD KEY STAR TREK COMICS. Please send lists and price to Stephen Rothwell, 20 Baxter Park Terrace, Dundee DD4 9BS.

**WANTED:-** Trek novel PROBE, hardback version. Must be in v.g.c. Contact Edwin on Hove (0273) 734860 at any time.

**WANTED -** a copy of The Schizoid Man. Please contact Pete Brodie, 15/16 Waratah Street, Cronulla, New South Wales 2230, Australia.

## **STAR TREK FAN AND ACTOR CLUBS UPDATE**

We have available a set of information sheets giving the addresses and brief details of all the British Star Trek clubs and local groups we know about, plus Star Trek related actor clubs in the UK and abroad. If you would like a copy write and ask Janet; enclose at least a 9" x 6" SAE plus an extra loose 17p stamp. (Note: new members receive a copy of this when they join IDIC, although we update it with the following info from each newsletter.)

Please enclose a SASE when writing to clubs for information.

Calling all Star Trek fans in Northern Ireland! Would you like a fan club based in N.I.? If the answer is 'yes' contact Clint Aiken, 68 Gilpin Park, Dollingstown, Lurgan, Co. Armagh, Northern Ireland BT66 7LA. Tel No: (0762) 324140.

**SOMETHING ELSE** - The UK branch of the Klingon Strike Force. We are a club for fans off ALL Treks aliens... Klingon, Vulcans, Betazoids, even Ferengi welcome. There are many activities to get involved with, and membership is FREE! Send an SAE to Something Else, P.O. Box 16, Consett, County Durham DH8 8YZ for details.

**BEYOND ANTARES:** A Star Trek club set up to serve fans primarily in the UK, but with members worldwide. Bi-monthly newsletters include all the latest news regarding Star Trek as well as more general information on the original series, the films, The Next Generation and Deep Space Nine. Membership dues per year (6 newsletters): UK £6.00, Europe £7.50, USA £9.50/\$20.00, Australia £10.00. Please make cheques/POs payable to BEYOND ANTARES and foreign

drafts/money orders payable to Sue Toher. No foreign currency except US dollars accepted. For further information, contact Sue Toher, 56 Spring Lane, Bishopstoke, Eastleigh, Hants SO5 6BA. Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope or two IRCs.

**ATTENTION KLINGONS!** All Klingon Assault Group communications should be sent to Robert Kirkwood, 2 Isles Terrace, Newmilns, Ayrshire, Scotland KA16 9TZ. Send an S.A.E. for further details.

## **LOCAL GROUP NEWS**

**MANCHESTER STARFLEET:** Branch of the NSFA. Meets the third Sunday of the month at Shawe Hall Community Centre, Urmston, Manchester. 1pm - 5pm. Videos, quizzes, raffles, outings. For more info and directions send SASE to Ardra Cochrane, 27 Common Lane, Leigh, Lancs WN7 4QW.

**ENTHUSIASTIC FANS WANTED!** - Would you be interested in joining a new Star Trek Group (Classic and T.N.G.)? If you live in the Staffs, Warks, Birmingham area, within easy travelling distance of Tamworth... **CONTACT US!!!** : Lee Sansome & Gaile Wood, 15 Foxglove, Amington, Tamworth, Staffs. B77 4HY.

Anyone wishing to start a local group in the BATH area, please contact me. L. J. Turner, 21 Shaws Way, Twerton, Bath, Avon BA2 1QQ.

**IPSWICH STARFLEET** Star Trek Fan Club encompassing all forms of Star Trek. Raffles, videos, role playing games, competitions, free news sheet, tactical combat, displays, social outings and 'Ten Forward' coffee bar! Meeting dates for 1992 (Sundays 1.00pm - 6.00pm) December 6th at Nacton Village Hall (follow signs for Nacton off the A45). Admission £1. If needed lifts can be arranged - phone (0394) 671253. For details please write, with SAE, to Chris Wileman, 15 Parkeston Road, Felixstowe, Suffolk, IP11 8NF or telephone number above.

**WAKEFIELD STARFLEET** a new Star Trek club, member of NSFA. Meets every third

Sunday of the month at Ossett Community Centre, Ossett, Nr. Wakefield at 2pm. Fans may attend two meetings before membership of NSFA is required, NSFA members attend free of charge! NSFA membership costs £4.00 per year. For further info send an SAE to Wakefield Starfleet, 14 Meadowfields Road, Crofton, Wakefield, West Yorkshire.

**HULL STARFLEET** Video programme, social outings, competitions. For more information contact Tracy Beadle, 7 Lynwood Grove, Goddard Avenue, Hull HU5 2BE, tel. 0482 48562)

**FARPOINT** needs you! If you live in the Isle of Wight area then this new local group needs you. SAE for info to Philippa Timms, Silver Glade, 9 Grangeside, Shore Road, Bonchurch, Isle of Wight PO38 1RW.

**THE LONDON STAR TREK GROUP** meets every two months or so at the Britannia Intercontinental Hotel, Grosvenor Square, London W1. Nearest Tube: Bond Street. For more details send an SAE to Kim Farev, 38 Rochford Avenue, Loughton, Essex IG10 2BS.

**LEEDS STARFLEET:** SAE to Leeds Starfleet, Leeds LS6 4TE. Meetings (incl. video programme) are held between 12 and 5pm on the following Sundays at the Headingley Community Centre, North Lane, Leeds: December 6th

**THE AWAY TEAM:** Glasgow Star Trek Local Group. Meetings every 6 weeks approx. at the Central Hotel, Glasgow, 10.00am - 10.00pm. Come along and watch the latest videos - you will also get the chance to chat with other fans and to buy merchandise. Entry £5.00. Forthcoming dates: Sundays: 10th January, 21st February, 4th April and 9th May. SAE for info to The Away Team, P.O. Box 867, Rutherglen, Glasgow G73 4HR.

**THE BRIDGE CREW:** - formerly The Landing Party. A local group based in the south east of Scotland. Fortnightly meetings at the Ailsa Craig Hotel. The group can be contacted at Wester Auchinricoch Farm,

Banton, Near Kilsyth G65 0QZ. Please enclose an SAE.

**PRIME DIRECTIVE** meets twice monthly at a city centre venue. Activities include days out, video evenings etc. Newcomers always welcome. Write to Michael Butcher, 501 Beechdale Road, Aspley, Nottingham NG8 3LF, for further info, enclosing an SAE.

**OPEN HOUSE** First weekend of every month but please phone first to check (081 985 0426). Zines for sale, tapes to watch, other fans to chat to. Janet Ellicott, 43 Brooksbank House, Retreat Place, Morning Lane, Hackney E9.

**STAR TREK: THE NEW GATHERING** (U.S.S. Discovery). Local meetings held in the Community Room, St Helens Library monthly. Write for details to Sharon Rowe, 93 Juddfield Street, Haydock, St Helens, Merseyside WA11 0BD.

**THE OUTER ZONE:** meets once a month in Brighton and chat, chat and... chat about anything Trek-related and all the latest news on SF & Fantasy, and sometimes go on the odd trip to the local movie theatre or con. As an extra incentive to all you would-be members, we also watch THE LATEST up-to-date TNG episodes (HOW can you pass that up!?) We also produce our own quarterly combined newsletter/zine called "Zone Guide - Phase II" which covers all SF/Fantasy (if we can get the information! See the the CITYPRESS/OUTER ZINE ad under the "Zine Ads" section for more details). Issue No.1 costs 50p (or 85p inc. p&p). For more details of the club and the newsletter, please send an SASE to Ms. Sue Parker, The Outer Zone, 42 Victoria Street, BRIGHTON, East Sussex, BN1 3FQ.

**DREAMWEAVERS** local group specialising in Doctor Who, Star Trek and other cult Sci-fi. Meets once every two weeks in the Bury St Edmunds/Haverhill area. (Annual membership (£5) includes free copies of our 30+ page quarterly newsletter Warp Nine (available separately). For more information please send a SAE to Ursula Clarke, 10 Bunbury Road, Bury St. Edmunds, IP32 6HT.

Copyright IDIC December 1992. All rights are reserved to the writers. No attempt is made to supersede any rights held by Paramount, NBC, BBC, CIC or any other holders of copyright in Star Trek material. Articles should not be reprinted without written permission. Factual information may be reprinted with appropriate credit.

The opinions stated in this newsletter are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of the committee.

Send to:-

**Janet** - Subscriptions/Renewals, renewals, all newsletter submissions on disc; all news, cuttings, adverts, merchandise info etc. for the newsletter; used stamps for the Guide Dogs.

**Sheila** - All Zine orders; postbag, articles & reviews for the newsletter; TNG submissions for zines (stories, poetry and artwork); used stamps.

**Valerie** - Classic Trek submissions for zines (stories, poetry and artwork).

**Helen** - Submissions of crosswords, quizzes etc.

Committee Addresses:

**Janet Quarton**, 15 Letter Daill, Cairnbaan, Lochgilphead, Argyll PA31 8SX, Scotland

**Sheila Clark**, 6 Craigmill Cottages, Strathmartine, by Dundee DD3 0PH, Scotland

**Valerie Piacentini**, 20 Ardrossan Road, Saltcoats, Ayrshire KA21 5EW, Scotland

**Helen White**, 34 Fletcher Gardens, Binfield, Bracknell, Berks RG12 1FJ

Dues UK £7.50, USA/Middle East Air \$23.00 (£13.25), Australia £14.50, Europe £9.50.

#### DATA PROTECTION ACT

This is a statutory notice as prescribed by the above Act. In accordance with the conditions governing the maintenance of machine-readable records by non-incorporated members' clubs, IDIC must advise that the names and addresses of every member are held in a computer-readable format in order to more efficiently prepare and despatch newsletters. The information is used for this purpose only, and will not be disclosed to any other party whatsoever without the

specific consent of the Data Subject (i.e. the member concerned). You should also be aware that you have a statutory right for your name to be deleted from the computer record and for your newsletters to be addressed manually.

#### CONTENTS

Actor Info	8
An Appreciation of Gene L Coon	47
A Unified Way	58
Beam Me Up, Scotty	49
Book & Video Reviews	81
Children on Star Ships	62
Clark's Convention Laws	78
Con Ads/General Ads	93
Convention - A Holiday	75
Crossword - Original ST	70
Crossword Solution - Original ST	7
Crossword - TNG	71
Crossword Solution - TNG	86
Enterprise Gift Catalogue	74
Families on Starship	60
Gillian Taylor	50
Latest Star Trek News	3
Kirk - The Perfect Leader	55
Merchandise	10
Naked Times	52
Origin of 'Make It So'	68
Postbag	11
Regarding Ro	59
Saavik	6
Sons, Daughters, Brothers...	57
ST Exhibition - Washington	45
Star Trek in the News	9
Star Trek IV	48
ST VI: Hamlet Act 3 Scene 1	50
Star Trek Movies	79
The Seldom Females...	66
Strong Women	64
You Pronounce It How???	51
Zine Ads	87
Zines - New Zines	80
Zine Reviews	83

Typing by Janet & Sheila; layout, initial edit and printing of masters by Janet; proof-reading and final edit by Sheila and Valerie.

Printed by Urban Print, 57 Perth Road, Dundee.

Packed by Sheila's Chain Gang  
900 copies.